

# REASSURANCES ON NEW POOLS THREAT

## But taxman still gets that £900,000

ALTHOUGH the Government has allayed fears that The Spastics Society's twopence-in-the-shilling share of charity football pool entry fees will not be subject to betting duty, the tragic loss to the Treasury of £900,000 held by the Society in reserve against the outcome of the recent Lords' appeal must stand.

SUN  
7-7-69



This telling cartoon comment on the Lords pools verdict appeared in "The Sun." It is reproduced by permission of the artist, Keith Waite, who has presented the original to The Spastics Society.

## The Week that was . . .

RARELY have all those who work for spastics been brought closer together than in the common purpose of Spastics Week—but the lessons learned must be carefully studied and put to good use.

This was the view expressed to Spastics News by the Week's Co-ordinator, Mr. Michael Reynolds when he spoke of the achievements of the venture.

It is too early, he said, to assess the financial results, but they were hopeful that the £250,000 target would be approached.

### Overwhelming

The other main object of Spastics Week was to publicise the problems of spastics and our work on their behalf. It is difficult to isolate the publicity that derived from the unfortunate pools case verdict from that arising from the Week's activities. The adverse verdict gave added point to the Week; the Week gave added opportunity for comment on the verdict. "It is certain that never in the history of organised support for spastics has there been such Press and public interest in our work. The publicity received by Groups and by the central Society in recent weeks has been almost overwhelming.

"The other great satisfaction we can feel about the Week is that rarely have all those who work for spastics been brought closer together in a common purpose. Spastics Week has highlighted many problems but also many ways in which we can help each other to help spastics. The lessons must be carefully studied and put to good use."

### Real chance

They should not rest on their laurels, however. Because of the success of Spastics Week 1969 in arousing interest in our work, they should be

eager to build on their achievement.

"It is when there is a swell of public sympathy for our cause that the public must be given the opportunity to share in our work, said Mr. Reynolds. "Our new-found friends must be given a real chance to continue to support the spastics.

"Much as we may be pleased with the results of the first national Spastics Week, few of us can feel we achieved all we might have. Our fund-raising efforts in most areas could be bettered, doubled, trebled. Now we have the bit between our teeth, surely we must go on to the end of the race.

"ALL THOSE WHO TOOK PART IN SPASTICS WEEK — SPASTICS, PARENTS, FRIENDS, STAFF—ARE TO BE CONGRATULATED. But let us look back on the period June 29th-July 5th, 1969 not as an isolated event, but as a springboard for future action.

## What the newspapers said

**Sunday Mirror:** "The 1964 Finance Act, upon which the ruling is based, may be the law of the land. But it is certainly not justice. . . . The human suffering which could be lessened with that £900,000 is impossible to measure. . . . Chancellor Roy Jenkins should immediately ask Parliament for

authority to pay £900,000 to The Spastics Society."

**Luton Evening Post:** "The Society has had a big set-back. And a rather odd one, too. The nation, which should be helping the medical work and relief, will be collecting."

**Northern Echo:** "The taxmen have done their duty as

As a result of the adverse decision, the Society must pay up the £900,000; their real loss is estimated at a much higher figure; their future income will be substantially reduced and future capital projects seriously affected.

Following swiftly on the bitter blow of the Society's lost cause in the Lords came another. A letter arrived from the Customs claiming that duty was payable on the charitable element in the pool stake money unless a rule could be produced showing that the contribution was purely voluntary.

### The last straw

Any such claim, said the chairman, Mr. W. A. Burn at the opening of Spastics Week, would wound the Society very severely. And there followed a considerable furore among the Press, M.P.s and the public over this last straw on the Society's already overloaded back.

But as a result of a move in the Commons by Mr. Terence Higgins (C., Worthing), and other M.P.s, the House was reassured that the charitable element would not be liable to duty (See page 2).

The Director of the Society, Mr. James Loring, told Spastics News afterwards: "A black and threatening cloud has disappeared from the Society's horizon.

"We are still deprived of £900,000 and must suffer the side-effects of the House of Lords decision, which I estimate as having cost us a further £2 million, but we shall not now have to pay a further £500,000 a year nor a further £2½ million in back duty.

### Darkest hour

"We are tremendously grateful to our supporters in Parliament, particularly Mr. Higgins and Sir Brandon Rhys-Williams (C., S. Kensington) and to other Members who espoused our cause.

"We are also grateful to the Press and to many thousands of people for the magnificent support they have given the Society in its darkest hour.

"It is plain that The Spastics Society has a place in the hearts of the British people."

At a Press conference at the opening of Spastics Week the Society's Chairman had said: "Millions of ordinary men and women are making these donations to charity for the express purpose that they be spent in the interest of spastics, with prudence and wisdom, in a human and personal way.

### Resisted

"If any of this money is now to be confiscated as pool betting duty, we shall be breaking faith with millions of persons all over the country as well as spastics and their families who are looking to us for practical help."

He said that any attempt by the Customs and Excise to take from the Spastics Society charitable donations which were never meant for them in the first place, should be resisted immediately and energetically. It was, to good effect.

## How the Percy Hedley Octet recorded 35 'hits'

A team of eight from the Percy Hedley School swept the board in the track events at the National Spastics Games (see page 12). They carried off 35 prizes—19 medals for first places, 13 seconds, two thirds and a certificate of merit.

### Topper

Top prize-winner from the school was 14-year-old Dennis Sproates, who took six firsts.

Headmaster Mr. D. D. Johnston gave the credit for the school's performance to a Newcastle University Physical education lecturer who had taken a great deal of interest in the pupils. "The techniques they used at the Games were far superior to those of other competitors," he claimed.

The school was successful in every event entered. Said Mr. Johnston: "We never dreamed we would do as well. We only took a small team down because of the expense involved."

zealous servants of the State. Somebody will be feeling very satisfied that they persisted in pushing the claim expensively through the courts for so long."

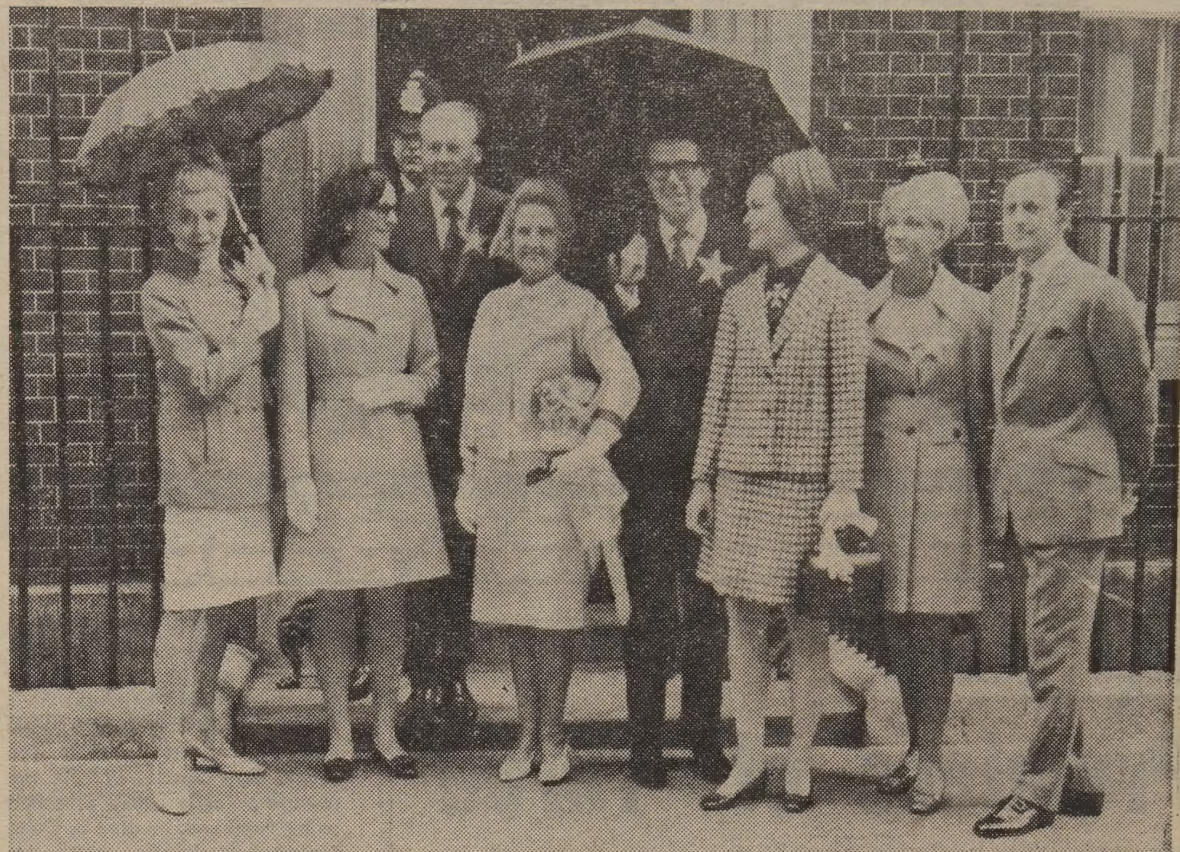
**Daily Telegraph:** "It is difficult to believe that the path of charity was ever intended to be made so difficult. . . . The State should be inclined, if anything, to err on the side of leniency where charitable activity performs a service to the afflicted that would not otherwise be forthcoming."

# spastics NEWS

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE SPASTICS SOCIETY

August, 1969

New Series, Price 6d.



A deputation from the Stars' Organisation for Spastics marched to No. 10 Downing Street, to hand in a letter to the Prime Minister protesting about the House of Lords ruling on the taxation of charity pools.

From left to right are Hy Hazell, Lady Westmorland, John Horsley, Maudie Edwards, Leslie Crowther (Chairman), Lady Tavistock (President), Sylvia Syms and David Jacobs (Vice-President).

Mr. Crowther said later: "The pools verdict means the S.O.S. will have to get cracking and do more charity work to help make up the loss."

### In business

Residents at Ponds have started a duplicating and photocopying service, which they hope to run on commercial lines.

## PRIZED PUTTER

Open golf champion Tony Jacklin opened a target golf competition in support of spastics at his home town of Scunthorpe.

The competition began on July 14 and lasted all week. Each contestant paid an entry fee of 2s 6d., and half the proceeds went to the Lincolnshire Spastics Centre.

Jacklin who is a Vice President of the Scunthorpe and District Spastics Society, donated a putter for the best individual scorer.

## Relax in a Radox bath

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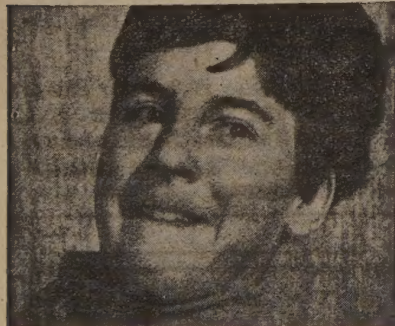


## FILM PREVIEW

# Premiere of 'Three for Society'



Anthony.



Janice.



Michael.

## PATSY ANN TAKES THE PLUNGE

Beauty queen Patsy Ann Moreton slid down a greasy pole and took a plunge into the Thames recently.

Patsy, who is Carnival Queen of Wallingford, was one of the main attractions at a Water Frolic and Barbecue held on the river bank at Castle Priory, the Society's staff training college.

There were also displays of canoeing, underwater swimming and radio-controlled model boats, as well as a fashion show and a mock sea-battle.

Proceeds were for The Spastics Society.

"I START to talk to a stranger; they automatically think, 'Oh, poor girl—she's mentally retarded.' But of course I'm not."

These words, spoken by a spastic girl in the new film "Three for Society" which had its premiere at the National Film Theatre during Spastics Week represented an emotional peak in a production which reveals perhaps better than any combination of printed words the enormous problems facing young people when they begin to realise the implications of their handicap.

The film, made for The Spastics Society by Samaritan Films, gains a great deal of force from its unpretentious informal approach. The young spastics, Anthony, Janice and Michael, whose problems and lives are projected in "Three for Society," tell their own stories. There is no commentary, except for the implicit and profoundly effective commentary of the cameras under the direction of Peter Kingsgate-Smith.

### POIGNANT

So important a documentary could not escape the attention of the mass media; even before the premiere, the BBC T.V. programme, "Twenty-four Hours", snatched up and transmitted a 10-minute excerpt which aroused a considerable amount of interest. It is not at all unlikely that the whole film—direct, poignant and devastating in its impact on those who are learning about spasticity for the first time, will be widely shown.

The audience at the preview included the Duke of Rutland, President of the Committee of Spastics Week Patrons, Mr. Norman Pentland, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Health and Social Security, Mr. Alex Moira, vice-chairman of The Spastics Society, and Mr. Leslie Crowther, chairman of the Stars Organisation for Spastics.

The film was introduced by the Society's Director, Mr. James Loring, and by Mr. Kingsgate-Smith. Afterwards, the Press were able to meet the three "stars" of the film at a reception.

THIS PICTURE of All Saints Church, Northallerton, represents the triumph of a man over his terrible handicap... And it is also a memorial to his courage, for shortly after the artist, Roy Scott, TYPED the picture using a probe attached to his forehead, he died in Croft Hospital, Darlington, still in his youth.

Roy, who had been a resident of the hospital for some years, had no known living relatives.

Duplicated copies of the picture may be obtained from Mr. Fred Garland, Spastics Work Centre, Acklam Road, Middlesbrough, price 6d., plus postage.

## Stars say 'Thank you'



AT A SURPRISE luncheon party, fellow-members of the Stars' Organisation for Spastics presented Vera Lynn with a set of engraved whisky tumblers.

### Year's total

At the annual meeting of the Teesside Spastics Society it was reported that about £4,500 was raised locally during the year.

### Donation

Yeadon Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society have donated £45 to Hawksworth Hall Assessment Centre.

# 'We will never tax charity donations'

## — Assurance in Commons

DURING a Commons debate on a proposed new clause to the Finance Bill, an assurance was given by the Government that voluntary donations to charity were not, and never would be, liable to duty.

Mr. Higgins (C., Worthing), moving the new clause to deal with the liability of charitable donations to duty, said it was designed to delete certain words in the Finance Act 1964 relating to the assessment of

pool betting duty so that the amount of certain charitable donations would be exempt from the duty as from April 5 this year.

The new clause treated with a serious matter so far as a number of large charities were concerned. It was also designed to clarify the existing laws so far as the liability of the charities to the duty was concerned.

Its purpose was not to reverse a recent House of Lords decision. The effect of that decision had severely reduced the amount of money available to these charities and particularly to the spastics charity. It involved something like £900,000

If this 2d in the shilling became taxable that would involve £500,000 less to be spent on the charity's work for spastics. Since 1964 £2,500,000 was involved.

Neither local authority help nor that given through the National Health Service was adequate to deal with the problem.

### Just incredulous

The organisations were frankly incredulous that any Government department felt it right to pursue the question of this tax in the way it had been pursued. "There is grave danger of discouraging voluntary work in this field, work which is very important indeed."

Mr. Lever said this matter had been widely publicised and even more widely misrepresented. The House of Lords decision was not to tax the spastics or any other charity at all.

It was a decision that applied to a commercial form of running pools and the appropriate law relating to pool duty. It had nothing to do with the taxing of voluntary donations to the spastics or any other charity.

"These charitable donations are not, never have been, and will never be, so the Chancellor of the Exchequer informs me, liable to pool betting duty. Nobody need have the smallest anxiety on that at all."

### Never liable

In operating the collection of the pool betting duty the Government could not have regard to what people intended to do if they were fortunate enough to find themselves exempt from the pools duty.

The fact that the House of Lords decision would be reflected in a lesser donation for the spastics or any other charitable cause was not a ground on which the Government could possibly hold its hand in seeking to apply the ordinary rules of the pool betting duty, but voluntary donations were not, never had been, and never would be liable to duty.

### Not adequate

That had not been the intention of those who had tightened the general legislation in this field in 1964. As a result Conservatives tabled the new clause.

The spastics organisation running the pool had received a letter from the Customs and Excise contending that duty was payable on the donation unless it was shown that it was made voluntarily.

## 'Pop' concert for Daresbury Hall

A MAMMOTH pop concert is to be held in Warrington on 14th September, and beat groups and singers have agreed to play free of charge. Proceeds are for a £20,000 recreation block at Daresbury Hall.

Organiser of the concert, Dave Warwick, manages many of the pop groups in the area.

Daresbury Hall's Warden, Mr. Frederick Bellman, said: "We have already raised £6,000 in two years. We are now keeping our fingers crossed and hoping that the pop show will give us a real boost towards our target."

It is planned to use the new recreation hall during the day for remedial games and educational purposes, and in the evenings for social activities.

The projected design includes a stage where visiting performers could entertain the residents. This would also be used for fund-raising concerts in aid of the centre.

An earlier fund-raising scheme held at Daresbury Hall collected £6,000 for a motor coach which was specially converted to take wheelchairs.

### Housemother

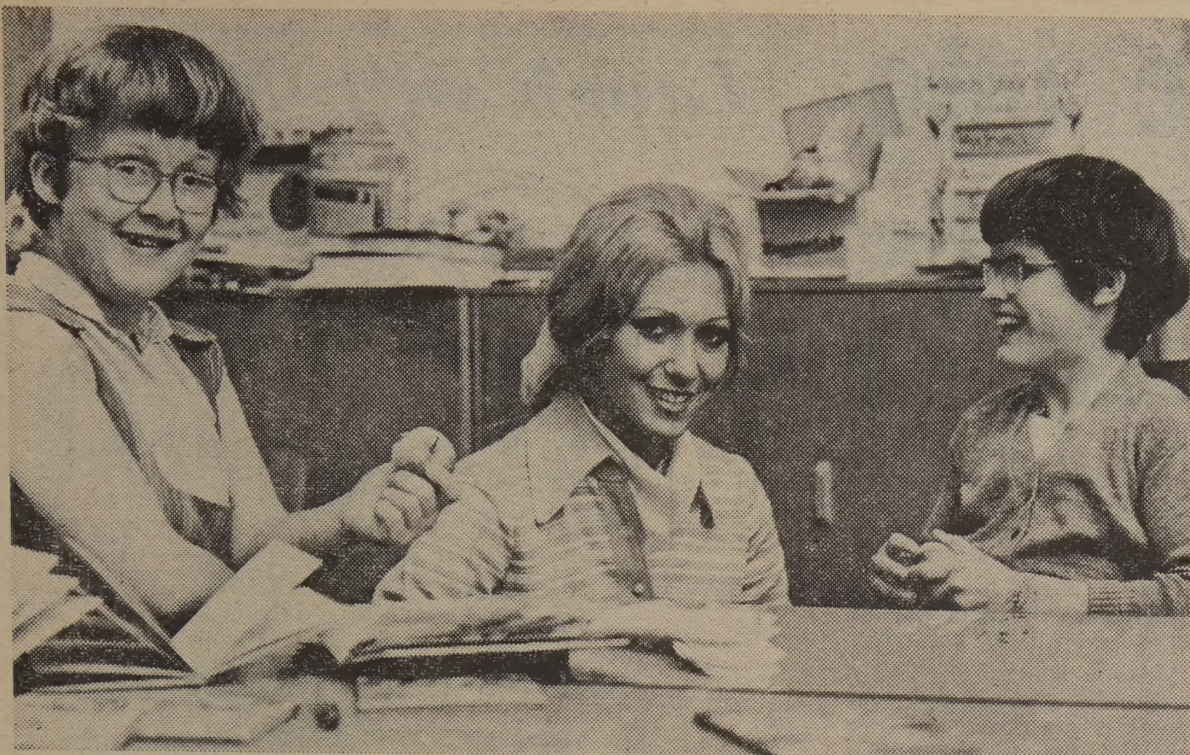
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Christine tempts two of the children with apples—and judging from their expressions, they were delighted to yield. (Photo, courtesy "Cambridge News").

## CHRISTINE'S QUEST — FROM TAHITI TO MELDRETH

**NINETEEN-YEAR-OLD** Christine Valdor — Miss Tasmania Quest—whose title earned her a trip round the world, took time off from visiting such exotic places as Tahiti and Panama to travel to the small Cambridgeshire village of Meldreth on a dismally wet June day.

The reason for her rural jaunt? She came to see The Spastics Society's Meldreth Training Centre for sub-normal handicapped children.

For Miss Tasmania Quest won her title from the Cerebral Palsy Association of Australia. With her prize of a world tour, a car and a £230

wardrobe, Christine also won the privilege of undertaking "ambassadorial" duties for the organisation, and on her trip to Meldreth she was keenly observing the methods used there so that she could report back after her five-month tour.

Christine, who comes from Hobart, was accompanied on her tour by Mrs. Joy Bratt, and after presenting apples to the Meldreth children and hearing them sing, they were themselves given posies of flowers. They also had lunch with the Principal, Mr. George Crabb. A visit to Wakes Hall, the S.O.S. home for older spastics, was also on their itinerary.

### COLLEGE RAG

A King Alfred College Rag held for Winchester and District Spastics Society and the Save the Children Fund raised over £250.

## Peterborough needs more volunteers

A plea for more local voluntary helpers was made by the retiring chairman of Peterborough and District's Spastics Society at the annual meeting.

Said Mr. J. M. Ross: "We really must encourage new members to help with the work, because with the expansion of Peterborough there will be more spastics in need of help in this area."

Mr. Ross said of the society's successful year that they had been able to give help in many cases and had bigger ventures planned for the future.

New chairman of the Society is Mr. J. Pearson.

### APPOINTMENT

Mr. Harold R. Kernan, well known for his work in many Worthing organisations, including the local spastics group, has been appointed chairman of the Worthing and West Sussex Disablement Advisory Committee.

## Mrs. Godfrey (93) is still at her post

A 93-year-old Norfolk woman is still doing her bit for spastics. She is Mrs. I. Godfrey, of High Street, Foulsham, Dereham, who collects used postage stamps to send to the Appeals Division at Park Crescent.

In a letter, she says: "I am 93 years old but am thankful to say I can get about and am really remarkably well for my age. So I hope these stamps will be a little help to someone who is not so fortunate."

### £1,000 knock

At the annual meeting of the Ipswich and East Suffolk Spastics Society it was reported that £1,005 had been raised during the local house-to-house collection.

### Roadside theft

Cash belonging to Wakes Hall centre for spastics was stolen from their roadside stall in front of the building.

## HANDICAP IS NO BARRIER TO MODERN SCOUTING

**THE EXTENSION** of Scouting to the handicapped boy is an important feature of the movement, whose policy is to encourage their integration into normal society, particularly in regard to Scouting.

The boy is given the opportunity to pursue the normal training programme of tests, badges and activities—there are no special alternatives. Whether in an Extension Group or an ordinary local group, the boy's own Leader has discretion to adapt the training programme according to the personal requirements of the boy.

Home-bound handicapped may also take part, and in many schools and hospitals there are opportunities for joining in Cub Scout and Scout meetings.

Age ranges are: Cub scouts: 8-11 years; scouts: 11-16 years; Venture Scouts: 16-20 years. Handicapped boys or their parents should address inquiries about membership to the Headquarters Commissioner for Extension Activities, The Scout Association, 25 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.

### COUNTED OUT

Dave Wallington, British Amateur Middleweight champion boxer, swung a left hook at a pile of pennies at the Alexandra Arms, Kettering. The "victim" was counted out—at £23. It will go to aid spastics.

## A better crack of the whip

Spastic children in South-west Kent deserve a "better crack of the whip", according to Mr. Peter Stuart, the new chairman, at the annual meeting of Tunbridge Wells and District Spastics Society.

And to show they mean business, the Society is planning fund-raising events in the hope of eventually obtaining premises suitable for a creche and for meetings and social occasions.

Mr. Stuart praised the work of Mrs. Nan Champneys and Mrs. F. M. Ashby who have alternately held the positions of chairman and secretary for 12 years.

Mrs. Champneys was elected president and Mrs. Ashby welfare officer.

### £500 SHOW

Members of the staff of an Exeter store modelled garments at a fashion show at Exeter's Civic Hall to raise funds for the Exeter and Torbay Spastics Society, and £500 was realised.

## Horse flu hits plan for Croydon gymkhana

### CARAVAN 'GIPSY' WON A ROMANY

One of the Romany garden caravans made by spastics at Sherrards Training Centre was raffled at Welwyn on behalf of the Centre's funds recently.

Appropriately enough, the winner was "Gipsy," a lucky black cat whose name had been entered on one of the raffle tickets by its owner, Mrs. Grace McBean.

Mrs. McBean opted to take a £150 cheque instead of the caravan—and promptly gave £50 back to the centre.

### C.D. Club's gifts

**KENSINGTON** and Chelsea Civil Defence Corps Social Club have presented nearly £100-worth of gifts to the Cheyne Walk Centre for Spastic Children.

The gifts included tricycles, special tables and chairs.

The donors were thanked by Mrs. Frances Watt, chairman of the Centre's Friends Association.

**A HORSE SHOW** and gymkhana being held to raise £500 for spastics had to be postponed . . . because the horses were in danger of catching flu.

The show was to be held in aid of the Croydon and District Spastics Society at the Kenilworth Stables, Dorking Road, Great Bookham, Surrey, on June 29.

Prizes were to be presented by disc jockey David Jacobs and the proceeds were to go to the Society's day nursery and clinic in Melville Avenue and its work centre in Bramley Hill, South Croydon.

Organiser of the gymkhana, Mrs. Margo Renny, of 22 Meadow Hill, Woodcote, Purley, said shortly before the show was to open: "A great many stables in Surrey are closed because horses have got equine flu."

### INFECTIOUS

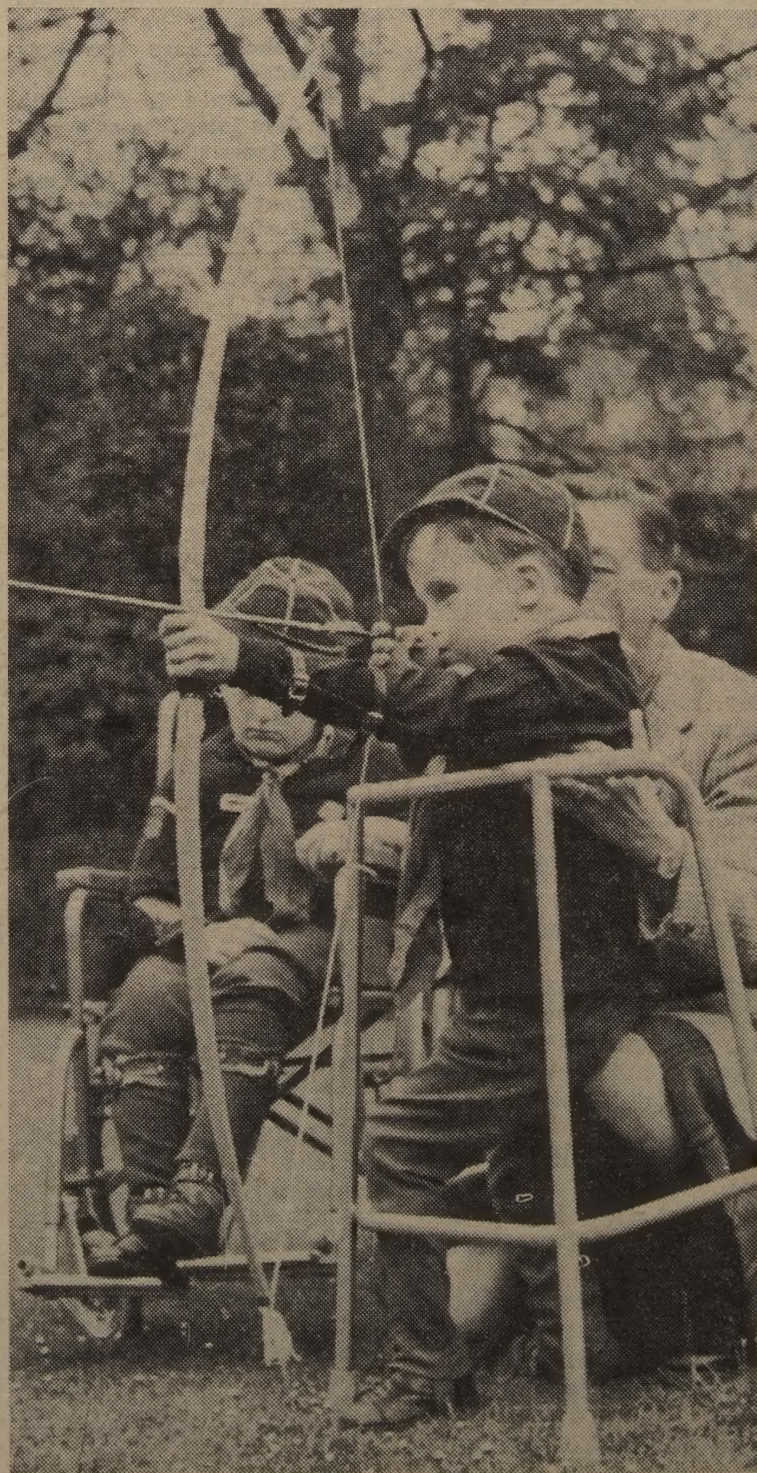
"I have spoken to local vets and they say it would be most unwise for us to hold the show at the present time, so we have deferred it until a later date."

"I am very disappointed but I can't afford to take the risk

because this type of flu is very infectious and can be carried by human beings.

"Fortunately, the Croydon Spastics Society won't lose any money by the postponement because we will stage the show later in the year."

Mrs. Renny said that more than 200 horses had been entered for the show from a 50 mile radius.



Handicapped Cub Scouts learning bowmanship. They are encouraged to discover their own limits and potentialities.

## New hit for Jess Conrad won him a coconut!

With a magnificent throw, Jess Conrad won himself a coconut when he toured the sideshows at the annual fete of the Friends of the Spastics at Ponds Home.

Earlier, Mr. Conrad had opened the fete and presented G.C.E.s to successful students at the Home, as well as assisting in auctioning off autographed footballs presented by League Clubs.

Among the many attractions at the fete were music and dancing by the Waikiki Beach Boys and Girls, a Wild West show, and a Scouts and Guides drum and fife band.

There was also an exhibition by Gerrards Cross and District Cage Bird Society.

Gross takings were £751, said the chairman of the Friends, Mr. J. K. Mance, afterwards.

### Help needed

Children from Watford Spastics Centre have started riding lessons but more voluntary helpers are needed to get the scheme under way.

## Wrexham close the Greystones appeal

**THE APPEAL FUND** for extensions and alterations to Greystones, the Wrexham and District Handicapped Children's Society home for severely disabled young people, has closed.

## Sister Susie sews up yet another £650

Sister Susie is among the very best friends of the Swansea and District Spastics Association . . . For Sister Susie is a charity-minded organisation of local people who "adopted" the Association as long ago as 1953 and has handed over thousands of pounds for its work.

Now the founder and organiser, Mrs. Crad Morgan, has presented a further cheque for £650 to the Association—proceeds from a shop they organised in Swansea.

She told an audience at Longfields, West Cross: "We are amazed at the wonderful work being accomplished for young and older spastics at the centre."

Said Mr. Noel Parry, the chairman: "We had a generous response to our appeal to the Spastics Society, who promised a grant of £20,000. Towards the remaining sum required—£15,000—the fund stands at £12,850 excluding the proceeds of another event, and with a further substantial contribution yet to come."

"We feel reasonably confident in the circumstances that the fund will be sufficient to meet the total cost and our Greystones appeal as such is being ended."

Mr. Parry pointed out that the normal work of the Society would still require to be financed, so that any contributions yet to come would be very thankfully received.

"There has not, surely, ever been an appeal for funds in the town that has evoked such a warm and whole-hearted response," he said.



# Machine brought music into Mr. Eppstein's hands

MICHAEL EPPSTEIN is 36, happily married and loves music. Nothing unusual in that, you might say, but then you wouldn't know the full story. For Michael Eppstein is a spastic, confined to a wheelchair, a man who finds it more difficult to sign his name than most people would to write a book.

He has been interested in music since he was a child. But it was not until 11 years ago, when he was living at The Spastics Society's Ponds Home, that he thought about studying it seriously.

With the encouragement of Mrs. Christine Brown, warden of Ponds, he began to study music theory. From those small beginnings, he took great strides in fulfilling his life's ambition.

## No Easy Task

Today, Michael lives at Glan-y-Mor, Woodland Avenue, Tywardreath, Par, Cornwall, with his wife, Margaret.

"It is physically impossible for me to play an instrument," he told me. "My first teacher decided that I should try and take the eight exams in music theory as set by the Associated Board of The Royal School of Music."

"It was by no means an easy task and I knew it would take a long time. My hand is not steady enough to put pen to paper, so I had to dictate my homework for each lesson to the various people who came to Ponds to help me. I dictated the exams also."

In December, 1960, Michael left Ponds to marry Margaret. They began their married life at The Spastics Society's Wilfred Pickles School at Tixover Grange, near Stamford, Lincs., where Margaret was a house-mother.

Life was wonderful until one day there came a serious setback. Margaret had a fall and was forced to give up her job.

"At the end of our short but happy stay at Tixover, we were

## Interesting people

MICHAEL EPPSTEIN

By Michael Cook

plunged into the business of setting up our first home. Neither of us had reckoned on having to do this so soon.

"We found a bungalow on the outskirts of Wokingham."

"It took us a long time to get established and even longer to convince the Berkshire authorities that I might benefit from further education and not be too much of a burden on their resources."

## Agonising

"Finally, thanks to Reading and District Spastics Group, I was able to continue my studies in music."

"Again I was faced with the agonising problem of writing my homework. To make ends meet, my wife had to go out to work. With household chores, the garden, going out to work and coping with me, she just could not be expected to write my homework as well."

"But necessity is the mother of invention. Slowly, I worked out a code for musical terms on my electric typewriter. The scale of C major would look like this: CDEFGABC. G sharp became G+. A flat became A-."

"As you can imagine, the code was cumbersome and slow—for my teacher and for myself. At the start of each lesson, the teacher had to 'translate' my homework before she could play it on the piano so that we might hear what it sounded like."

But people were there to help, once again. Mrs. Brown

again stepped into the picture and arranged for Michael to take further examinations at Ponds. She was also responsible for finding other teachers so that he could carry on his studies.

## Right Direction

In the summer of 1964, Margaret's father died and the couple moved to Cornwall to be near her mother.

"So far as my education was concerned, it was a move in the right direction," Michael said. "The Cornish county welfare authorities have been both understanding and helpful."

He began to have lessons with a music teacher from St. Austell Grammar School. More exam successes followed. Then the county music adviser agreed to be his amanuensis.

But the work was still slow and it was still cumbersome. Michael dreamed of a machine that would be able to type music. With the help of more friends, the search for the elusive machine began.

Once, the couple made a nightmare journey to London when they heard of an American machine called the Music Writer.

But it was a shattering anticlimax. When they arrived, they found that the machine was impossible for Michael to operate. "For a person with two very good hands it would have been ideal," he said, "but then I don't have two very good hands."

They returned to Cornwall. A few days later, the owner of a local typewriter shop telephoned to say he had information about a machine called the "Musigraph" which was

being manufactured by the Imperial typewriter company.

Eight months later, after a great deal of pressure on the company, an Imperial agent knocked on the Eppstein's front door. He had brought a Musigraph. "I was allowed to keep the model for a week's trial to make sure it was the machine for me. After all, the cost was £260."

"Luckily, we were given a few months' grace in which to find the money. Local charities were contacted to see if they would help with a donation. Eventually, two organisations stepped forward with grants—the Dame Henrietta Trust and The Spastics Society."

"An aunt of mine in Birmingham, who teaches music to the blind, also made a contribution."

At last, as he put it himself, Michael "felt liberated from bashing my head against a brick wall."

"Now," he said, "I could see real music, exactly as it should be written. My teachers no longer had to translate my coded homework before we could get down to a lesson. Wasted minutes became working time."

Michael is now studying for his "A" level in music. It will be a two year slog, but he believes the rewards are well worth the effort. He is also finding time to study French, Latin and Spanish.

## Dream Fulfilled

With the aid of the Musigraph, he can also turn his attention to composing music. One of his arrangements—a setting for the carol, "Bright and Joyful is the Morn"—has been performed at St. Austell Grammar School by the Treviscoe Choir. It is now in the process of being published.

And so, thanks to a machine that can type music, the help, understanding and encouragement of friends and teachers, and his own determination, Michael Eppstein is fulfilling his dream.

## Laugh with Meigh



## New motoring guides for the disabled

### At home...

### BOOKS

THE AUTOMOBILE Association has this year brought out the "GUIDE FOR THE DISABLED" in a much more comprehensive form than previous editions.

While there is still the same emphasis on hotel accommodation, the scope of the guide has been widened to include more details of recommended guest houses and hotel dining rooms. There is new information about towns with parking concessions, a list of Ministry of Health repairers and a section dealing with bridges, tunnels and motorways.

The aim of the guide is to help those motorists who are disabled to tour in the British Isles with a minimum of inconvenience and discomfort. This booklet, which should prove invaluable to all disabled motorists, is available free of charge to A.A. members and costs non-members 2s. 6d.

### and abroad

THE I.C.T.A. Information Centre in Sweden has produced a "MOTEL GUIDE FOR THE DISABLED." Instead of concentrating on motels in one particular country, the compilers of the guide have chosen two principal routes across the Continent and limited themselves to giving advice and details about the various motels to be found along the main European highways.

The first route covered is E.1 London to Palermo, mentioning motels in England, France and Italy. The second is E.4, Lisbon to Helsinki, which includes motels in Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, Ger-

many, Denmark, Sweden and Finland. Sufficient information has been provided to enable the disabled motorist to journey right along each route.

The I.C.T.A. have stressed that this guide is a trial which can perhaps be made more complete in a later edition. However, it should still be of great interest to anyone contemplating journeys by car across the Continent.

Copies of both these booklets will soon be available from 16 Fitzroy Square, London, W1P 5HQ. Please apply to Mrs. M. Till, Information Clerk.

W.R.G.

## Our third parents' handbook

A THIRD Parents' Handbook has just been published by The Spastics Society. It is called "SPASTIC CEREBRAL PALSY" and gives a guide to physical treatment of children from 18 months to five years who have the spastic quadriplegic form of handicap.

The book stresses that with this type of cerebral palsy, a large part of the treatment consists of the way in which the child is handled in his daily life—such as the way he sits and plays. Thus it can be seen that the role of the parent in such cases is a vital one—not second best to treatment by an expert, but the best possible way in which parents can help the experts to improve the child's movements.

The illustrations are copious and clear, and there are helpful suggestions about chairs, trays and tables which will give maximum opportunity for moving and, at the same time, the security which the child needs to feel.

The author, David Scrutton, a research therapist at the Paediatric Research Unit attached to Guy's Hospital, writes: "This book is designed to give you a better understanding of your child's difficulties and his treatment, as well as to show you some ways of helping him in the home. It cannot replace first-hand advice, only help you to understand it better."

(From The Spastics Society, 12 Park Crescent, London, W.1, price 2s. 6d.).

P.D.C.

J.G.

## GETTING CLOSER TO THE SOURCE

By the Supplies Officer

THE nearer you get to a source of supply, the cheaper the cost. This becomes complicated later on when packing, postage or carriage, and invoicing has to be costed.

Hence the reluctance of the primary producer to sell to the individual. From the buying end it is just as easy (often easier) to buy a gross as a dozen. To the seller, the reverse does not apply.

All of which prompts me to mention the purchasing advantage of a group of people, and this could well be a group of The Spastics Society. Having said this, what could we offer? Here are a few thoughts:—

ABSORBENT COTTON WOOL, hospital quality. A carton of 24 lb. at 2s. 9½d. per lb., plus, of course, carriage.

SINGLE-BED SHEETS, 72in. x 108in., white, bleached of the same quality, as used in hospitals, at 33s. 6d. per pair (minimum quantity six pairs). Postage about 7/6d.

PILLOW CASES, white, bleached, 20in. x 30in., of the same quality as the bed sheets, at 41/- per dozen (minimum quantity one dozen). Postage about 6/-.

BLANKETS (ALL WOOL), 70in. x 90in., white or pastel shades, whipped edges, at 37s. 6d. each (minimum quantity six blankets). Plus carriage.

MOST ELECTRICAL GOODS at list price, less 25%, plus purchase tax, plus carriage.

COTTON TWILL DRAW SHEETS, 68in. wide. The piece length 70/75 yards at 4s. 2d. per yard (minimum order one piece).

The mechanics of a scheme embracing a group, rather than the individual, are quite simple. A request for an item would have to comprise a description of what is required, the quantity, and some idea of the price.

In turn, an estimate would be provided and your decision awaited. An order would be placed for delivery to you and payment would be made on receipt of the goods.

## IF

If you can keep your head when all about you  
Are patting it as though  
you were aged two;  
If you can trust your limbs  
when others doubt you—  
Accept help with good grace,  
not as your due;  
If you can be content  
with your low earnings,  
While others round have  
so much more to spend;  
If you can learn  
to conquer normal yearnings,  
To 'sublimate' and not  
go round the bend;  
If you can walk in crowds  
and keep your balance,  
And talk with kings

but not let speech be slurred;  
If, when they praise  
some very minor talents,  
You can let your real  
achievements go unheard;  
If you can keep your dignity  
on falling;  
Get up to face the stargers  
with a smile;  
If you can bear the  
welfare workers calling  
To tabulate you neatly  
on their file:

If you can face your limitations  
squarely,  
Yet keep on striving  
to the bitter end—  
You'll be more than just  
a spastic, clearly,  
You'll be a bloody miracle,  
my friend.  
(By a Spastic)

## How wonderful life really is...

"CROSSED WIRES," by Bill Howe, published by the Spastics Society, 12 Park Crescent, London, W.1, 5s. including postage.

BILL HOWE wants to abolish the "H" bomb, doesn't believe in God, has a good eye for a pretty girl and a passion for Beethoven.

Bill is almost totally disabled. He cannot speak. He cannot walk. And the only movements he can make are a nod of the head and a shake of the left foot.

It is a popular misconception that because a person is physically abnormal he must be somehow mentally abnormal as well. But Bill has proved

beyond all doubt in his book "Crossed Wires," that within his almost useless shell of a body, there is a lively mind and personality.

Bill discusses, intelligently and rationally, the everyday problems which ordinary people discuss in their spare moments.

He tells us that his favourite sport is cricket. He gives us his opinions on religion, television, royalty and so on.

And he tells us about his pipe-dreams. Of the girl he hopes to marry, and the farm he hopes to own. But comes sharply back to earth with: "You can never live on ifs and buts because life is what you

make it."

Despite his handicap, Bill's life is by no means gloomy, and his book is full of humour.

"Some people think we are better off dead," he says. "These people do not know how wonderful this life really is. I love all things which are beautiful on this earth."

Above all, Bill's story is one of courage. At no time does self-pity creep in. At no time does he despair. Always there is hope for the future.

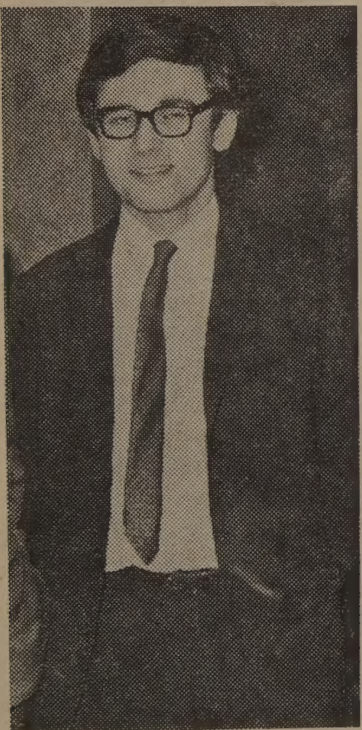
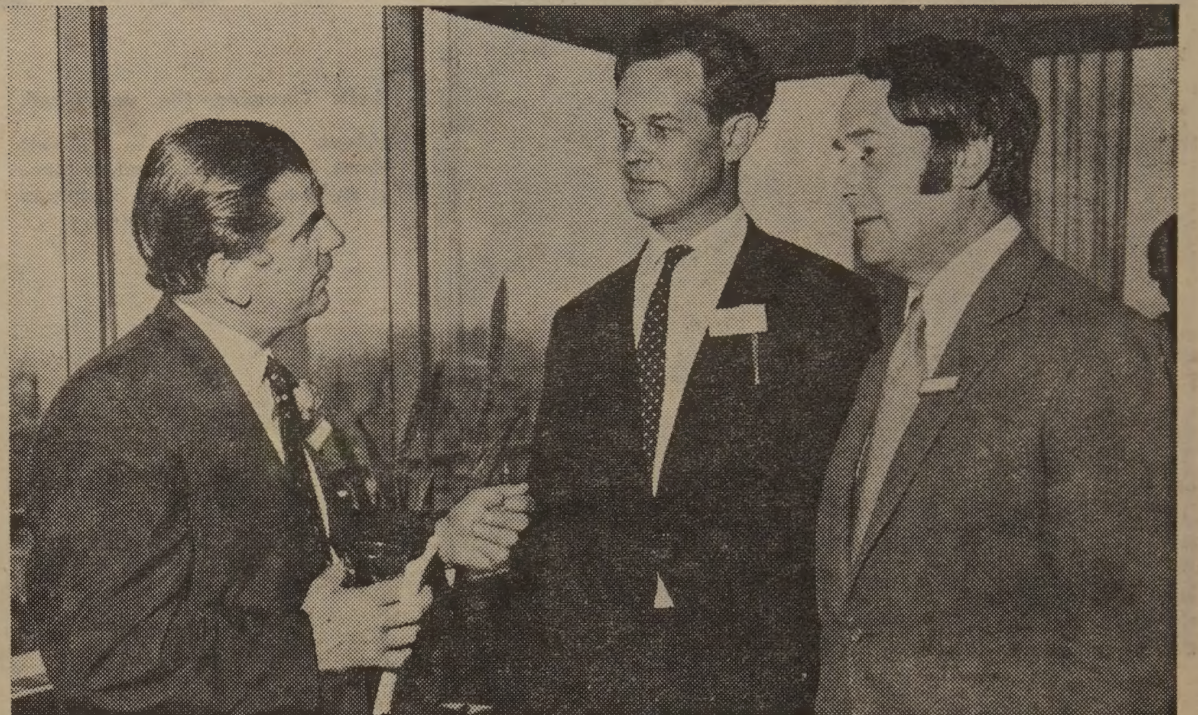
The book took five years to write, and it was laboriously typed by Bill using a peg attached to a special shoe.



## SPASTICS WEEK

Picture  
Parade

LEFT: Mrs. Mary Wilson, wife of the Prime Minister, with Mr. John Kellett, Assistant Director (Appeals), at the opening Press Conference. ABOVE: Harry Secombe and Leslie Crowther, with Wilfred Pickles in support, arrive with the National Charity Queen's sedan chair. Later (BELOW): Harry and Mr. A. M. Frank, Assistant Director (Regions) joined in a drink and a smile.



ABOVE: Mr. W. A. Burn, the Society's Chairman (left), the Director, Mr. James Loring (right), and Mr. J. E. Price (Assistant Director, Finance), at the opening Press Conference at the Martini Rossi Suite. Also above: Some of those at a buffet lunch at the Fitzroy Square Family Services and Assessment Centre during the week.

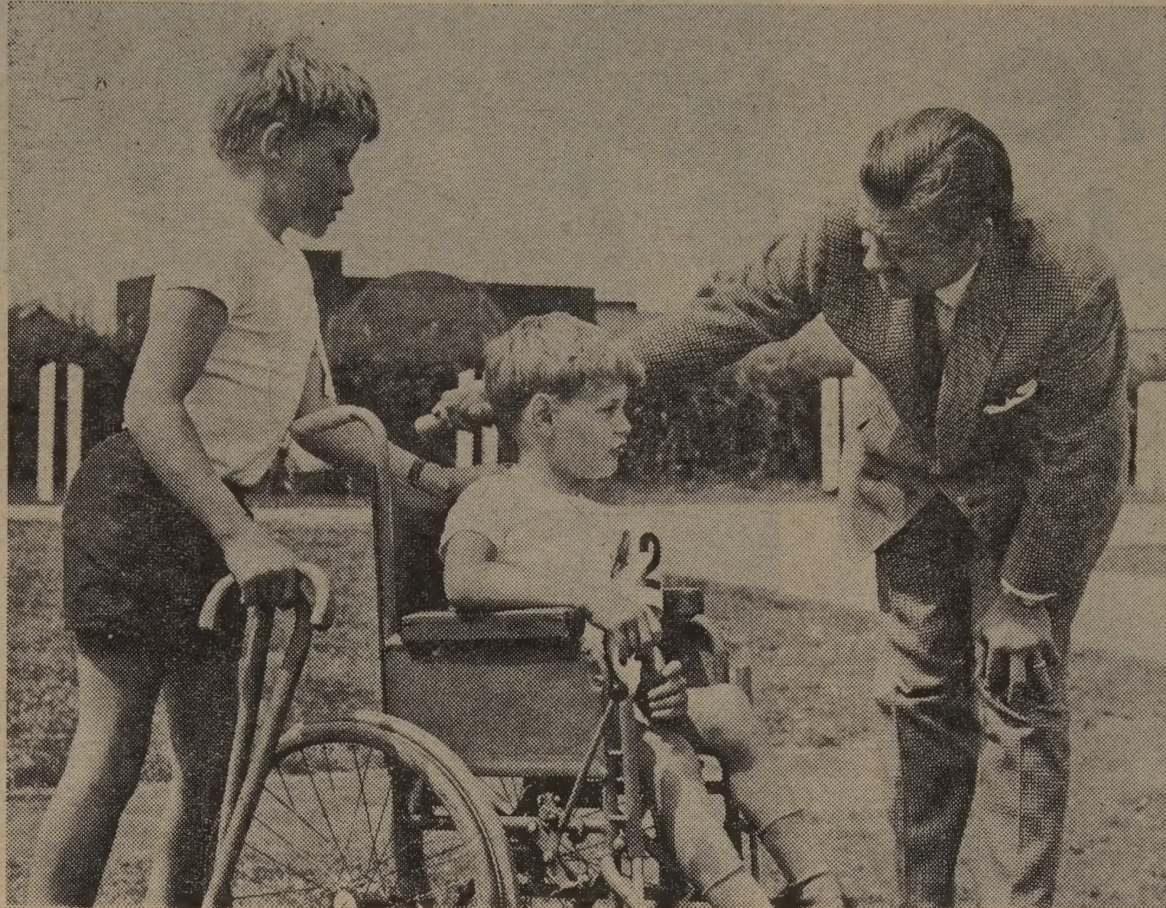
LEFT: At the premiere of "Three for Society" (see Page 2), the three stars, Michael, Anthony and Janice, with some of those present, including the Duke of Rutland (third left, standing). Smaller picture shows the film's director, Peter Kingsgate-Smith.

BELOW: Mr. R. C. E. Cumplen, Secretary of the Society, chats with Mr. E. Aarons, Chairman of N.W. London group at the Fitzroy Square lunch.





# THE NATIONAL SPASTICS GAMES



Mr. Bill Hargreaves gives a competitor in the wheelchair slalom the "off".

Left: Throwing the volley-ball.

Above: M. Fysh and P. Williams from Craig-y-Parc, receive congratulations from the Chairman for their efforts.

## JIMMY MEETS HIS MATCH



Miss J. French throwing the club. She won her event. Below: A group of winners from Percy Hedley School with Mr. and Mrs. Burn and the Charity Princess.



Jimmy Saville presents his cap to Oakwood's Geoff Busby, who beat him all hands down in an impromptu wheelchair dash.

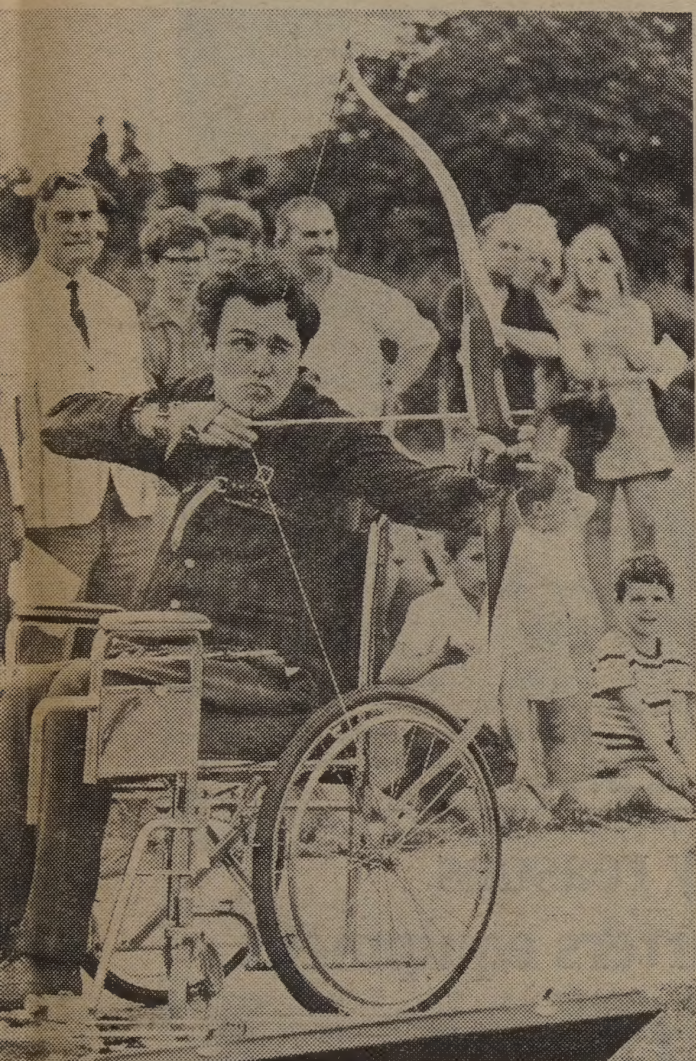


Twelve million half-year-old Durham Br ambitious scheme w out of circulation o for a new home for

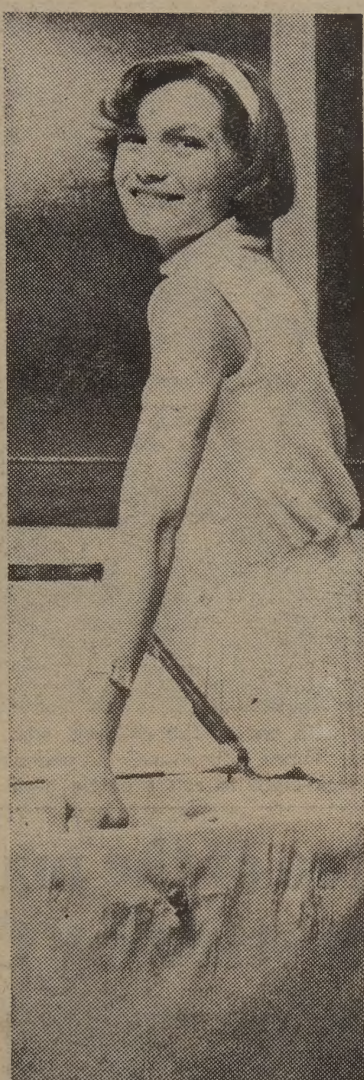




One of the precision javelin events in progress. Many of the competitors made their throws from wheelchairs.



Nicholson takes careful aim during a demonstration of archery from a wheelchair at the Games.



Fourteen-year-old Jill Galloway makes the Spastic Week draw at Paddington Work Centre. She was chosen because she and her family sold 270 books of tickets. Singer Kenny Lynch, who was to have made the draw, was unable to keep the appointment.



No amount of feminine charm could sweep Klondike Bill, the "Man Mountain," off his feet at Oxford Stadium. The international wrestler was one of the chief attractions in a charity show organised by Oxford Spastics Welfare Society. (Picture courtesy Oxford Mail).



million halfpennies—that was the colossal target which seven-year-old Durham Brownie, Lorraine Inner, has set her sights. Lorraine's scheme was to collect millions of the coins before they went into circulation on August 1 to help Durham Spastics Society's fund new home for adult spastics. (Photo, courtesy Newcastle Journal).

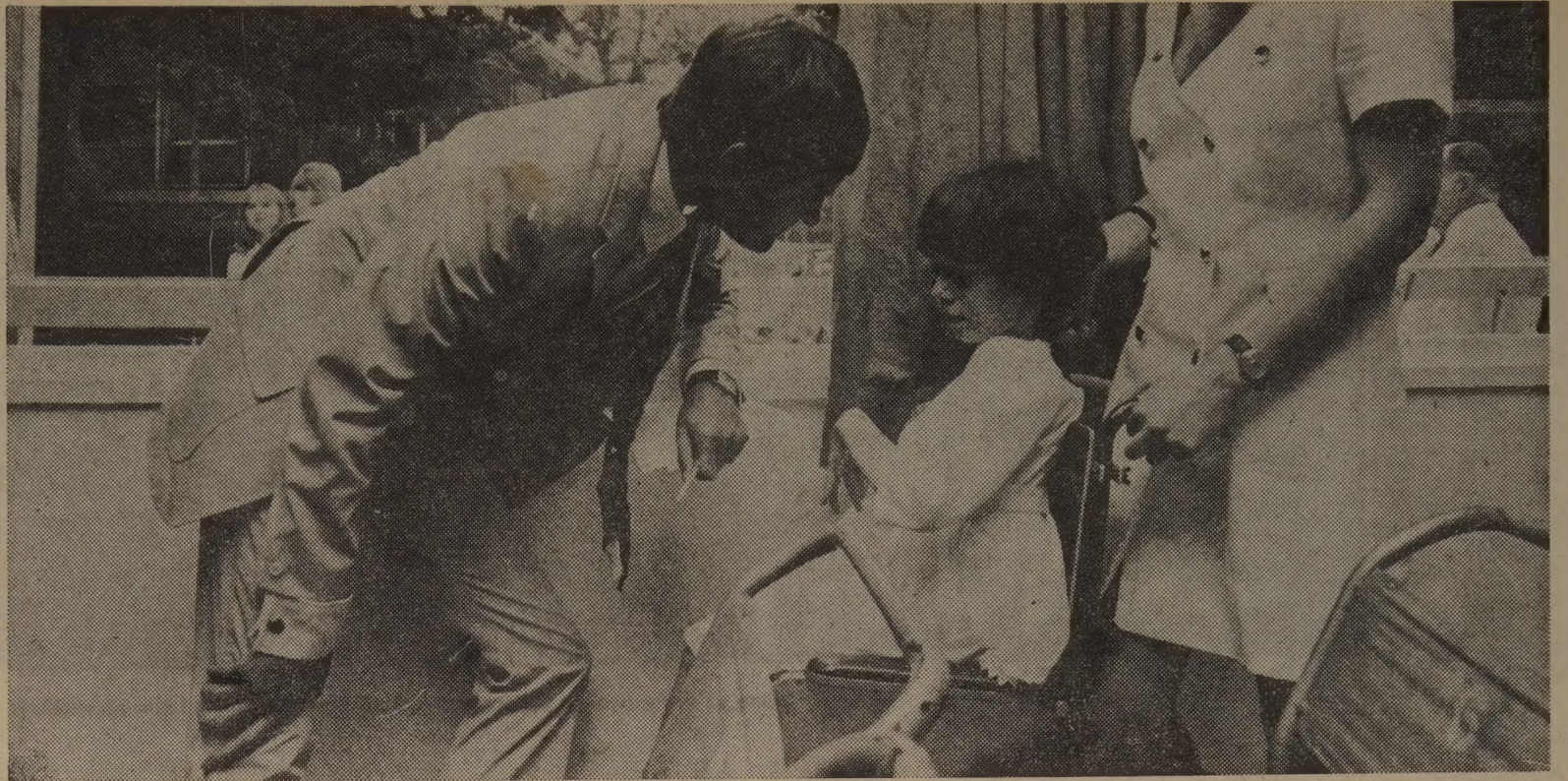


Below: During Spastics Week world champion racing driver Graham Hill visited the Watford Spastics Centre. Graham, patron of the local group, is seen talking to two-year-old Ruth Connon in the hydrotherapy pool with Mrs. D. Pickin. (Photo, courtesy Evening Echo, Hemel Hempstead).

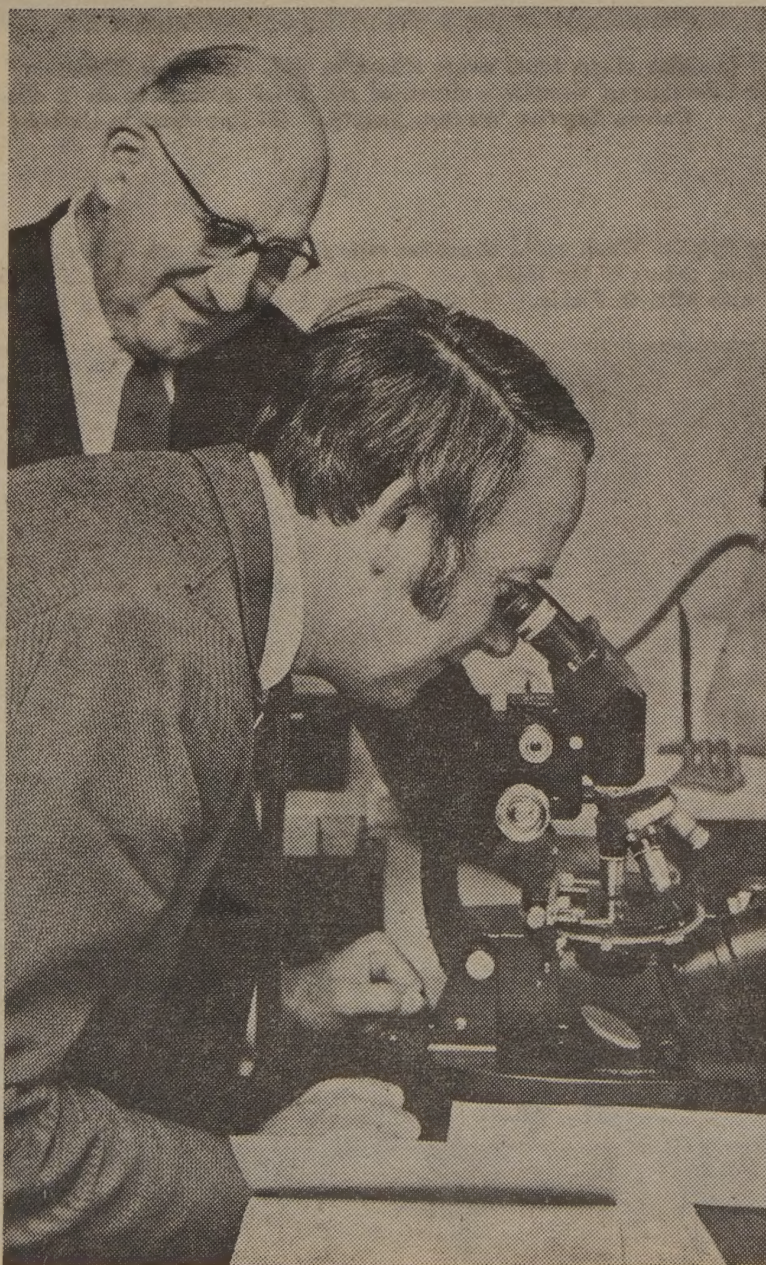




Hilary Van Geest is chosen as best-dressed woman at the Dandy Ball. With her—Keith Skuse.



Prof. Paul Polani and Dr. P. Benson, of the Paediatric Unit, pictured at the Medical Press conference at Guy's Hospital, where (below), the Society's Director had the expert guidance of Sir Max Rosenheim, President of the Royal College of Physicians, when doing some "research" of his own.



## THE SPASTICS SOCIETY

### Lancaster Training Centre

Slyne Rd., Lancaster

This new purpose built Centre, recognised by the Department of Employment and Productivity, provides industrial rehabilitation for some 70 lightly handicapped male and female Spastics aged 16 and upwards with a view to placement in open employment. Trainees come from all parts of England and Wales and normally spend six months in the Centre.

Applications are invited for the posts of one Male and one Female Resident Hostel Assistant (Houseparent). Hostel life is regarded as an integral part of the overall pattern of training at the Centre and Hostel Assistants are concerned with the welfare and social development of the residents. Salary NJC Assistant Houseparents/Houseparents (Resident) £650 to £955 less emoluments charge of £195 per annum. Full board and a well furnished bed sitting room are provided. An additional payment of £70 per annum is made to holders of appropriate qualifications. Superannuation if desired. Students desiring a year's practical experience before taking a qualification in Social Work may apply.

Application forms from the General Manager at the address above.

Closing date for completed forms, 28th July, 1969.



Top: Actor Derek Nimmo with one of the children who attend the Medway Towns centre, which he officially opened. (Photo, Times Educational Supplement). Above: Mr. Jack Boydell and Mrs. Vi Eastall literally took the sack-cloth to run a bottle stall at Oakwood's Fete.

## Just three of the many reasons for selecting Carters equipment

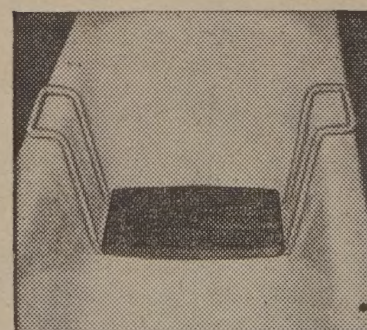


**1 Carters experience.** Carters have for many years taken the lead in supplying items to aid the disabled. Experienced staff work in close co-operation with medical personnel in Hospitals, Welfare Organisations and Private Practice. The result is an extensive range of equipment which meets the needs of patients requiring physical medicine or rehabilitation.

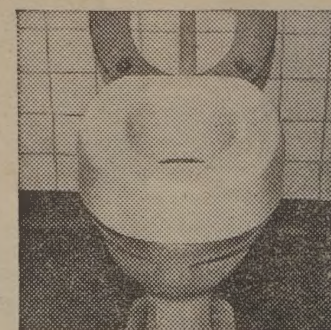
**2 Carters aids are adaptable.** Every item is especially designed for its purpose. Adaptable to meet varied requirements and designed to give lasting, reliable service.

**3 Carters use only the finest materials.** Carters have pursued a consistent policy of using the finest materials and the most modern manufacturing methods. This ensures an excellent product at a competitive price.

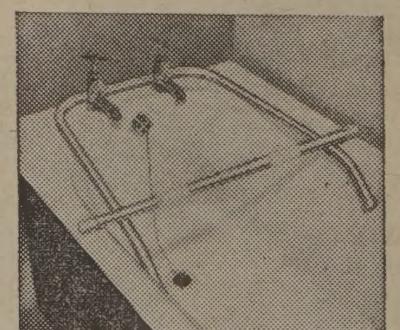
**Everest & Jennings Wheelchair 8U20/0524VL** Fitted with specially designed handrims which help to overcome difficulties of wheelchair patients who suffer from arthritic conditions.



**Simplex Bath Seat C412** This aid adapts to the bath to help those patients who find difficulty getting into or out of the bath. Rubber covered rests prevent scratching of bath sides.



**Raised Toilet Seat C457** Made in hard wearing polypropylene. Increases toilet height by approx 6". Can be cleaned with boiling water.



**Instant Bath Rail C439** A chromium plated Bath Rail which is adjustable to any bath width. Fitted with rubber tips to avoid scratching the bath.

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Please tick item(s) required

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## TEN BOB TOOK WARDEN 1,240 MILES

MORE THAN 1,240 miles in 48 hours—that was the distance covered by Mr. Gordon Kerkham, Warden of the Nottingham Family Help Unit in support of Spastics Week.

He was one of six people taking part in a sponsored initiative test, to see how far they could travel in 24 hours with just 10s in their pockets.

The six travelled the roads between Lands End and John O'Groats to raise about £250—enough to keep one child at the unit for a year.

### Very friendly

Terry Learad—who is the Nottingham Family Help Unit's cook—and Gordon Kerkham decided to set out for John O'Groats.

"We did pretty well for lifts," said Gordon, "although we must have walked about 50 miles of the journey."

"One chap picked us up and offered to take us two miles down the road. He ended up carrying us more than 100 miles."

"People north of the border were very friendly. One family put us up overnight and made sure we had a good meal before we left in the morning."

He said they were considerably helped on the return

journey by Scottish Rotary Clubs whose members carried them in relays from one club's territory to another and on to Newcastle. From there they hitch-hiked back to Nottingham without much difficulty.

"It took us 20 hours to hitch from John O'Groats back to Nottingham," said Gordon. "I'm now wondering if this is a record."

The four others taking part in the hitchhathon, reached Lands End without too much difficulty.

### Not so lucky

Sheila Masterson and Avril Miskelly, nurses at the unit, shrewdly arranged with each of the drivers who carried them on the outward bound route to be waiting for them on the return journey.

However, Colin Hunt—voluntary worker at the unit—and nurse Barbara Jeys, were not so lucky.

They spent eight dismal hours vainly waiting for a lift near Bristol. Finally they gave it up as a bad job and threw themselves on the mercy of British Rail, who generously provided seats on a homeward bound train.

### President honoured

Lord Ashburton, President of the North Hampshire Spastics Work Centre Appeal, was made a Knight of the Garter in the Queen's Birthday Honours list.

### Support

Stafford Ladies Circle has offered to support the local spastics group which is trying to collect £10,000 for a day centre.

# Newton wheelchair sails through the 'drop test'



Des O'Connor with Sandra and Lindsey. (Photo, courtesy Daily Express).

## Final curtain (after two rehearsals)

### Check your change, mon!

The Scottish Council for the Care of Spastics, founded in 1946, are asking all their workers to help collect all the coins minted since then.

Friends will be asked to "fork-out" their change, hand over a coin or two issued since 1946 and sign the appropriate space on a special card.

Payments come to the Council through Post Office Giro.

At last, the curtain fell in a happy ending to a right royal occasion for Coventry spastics Sandra Blount and Lindsey McCutcheon. For there they had sat—in the Royal Box at the London Palladium, and watched their idol, Des O'Connor, play to a packed house . . . But back to:

Chapter one: In March, the girls wrote to the Daily Express Action Line desk that they were both confined to wheelchairs, had booked to see Des in "Cinderella" but he had been taken ill. Could Action Line fix up a meeting?

Chapter two: Des arranges for the girls to be given side seats for one of his performances. But once again he is taken ill. "When I open in the Palladium show, I'll bring the girls to London," he promised.

Chapter three: Sandra and Lindsey are brought from Coventry in an ambulance and carried to the Royal box. And after the show, Des meets them and presents them with signed photographs . . . Curtain.

THE NEWTON WHEELCHAIR—made by spastics at The Spastics Society's Meadway Works, Birmingham has come through gruelling tests under abnormal conditions with flying colours.

The story began when a Danish customer asked for a chair one inch wider than standard. Said Mr. H. Cragg, works manager: "Rather than send them slimming diets, we decided to make up a prototype and test it under abnormal conditions . . . If a one-inch wider, and therefore weaker, chair would successfully withstand our test, we could expect the standard chair to stand up to even more rigorous conditions."

After placing a wooden "model" in the chair, together with 200 pounds of brass scrap, the appliance was taken down a flight of 16 steps, each six inches high. No damage could be detected.

"We then pushed it over a single step, progressively increasing the drop up to 20 inches. This final drop was repeated eight times. Pushing the chair with 200 pounds of deadweight up a gradient merely to roll it off the end of a 20-foot drop is not something one does for pleasure . . ."

### No fractures

But when the wheelchair was stripped in the works and thoroughly examined no joint or material fractures were revealed, and neither the frame nor any of the tube showed any deformation. The chair's only defects were minor—one wheel had buckled slightly and a folding link was bowed—and little expense was involved in making it as good as new.

Said Mr. Cragg: "The test proved conclusively the robustness of the chair in spite of its ultra-lightness and confirms all our faith in what we at Meadway Works confidently claim—that the Newton Wheelchair is the lightest and best on the market."

## Showing the youngsters how . . .

Parties of school children are now being shown round Meadway Works. Mr. R. G. Miller, General Manager, said the tours were not intended to raise money directly, so much as to show how the public's money was being spent and to convince youngsters that the Spastics Society was a cause worth supporting.

A draw held in Birmingham for The Spastics Society raised a total of £105 16s 6d., and students of Garretts Green Technical College raised £70 by a sponsored walk.

## £1,000 FOR A FIVER

THE Ipswich Group's house-to-house collection raised £1,005 7s. 8d.—and cost only £5.

The collection, organised by Mrs. Devine, made by a band of helpers in their spare time.

This was the best collection so far, equal to approximately 2d. per head of the Ipswich population at a cost of less than 1s. per 1,000.

## Ride in comfort with Everest & Jennings Power Drive Wheelchairs



New mobilised freedom, comfort and confidence . . . the Everest & Jennings Power Drive wheelchairs make life so much easier . . .

An E & J Power Drive Chair can give you so much more freedom and the wonderful confidence of being independent . . . Imagine, at the mere touch of the controls being absolutely mobile whenever you desire! E & J Power Drive Chairs are simple to operate and designed to give you armchair comfort. For further details of the many benefits a Power Drive motorised wheelchair will give you, write for the Everest & Jennings fully illustrated, informative brochure.



### POWER DRIVE WHEELCHAIR

A new electrically-operated wheelchair with two motors to provide all-day run about use. Fingertip control with four speeds, forward or reverse, for indoor and outdoor use. Gives complete freedom—even slopes and ramps up to 1 in 10 gradient are easily negotiated. Turns in a space of four feet. Swinging detachable footrests, for easy entrance and exit, allow close positioning to desks, tables, etc. Flexible construction ensures smooth ride at all times. Battery charger available for fast overnight charging.



### SLEYRIDE SELECTRA INDOOR CHAIR

Self-drive mobility in the home, without manual effort. Two speeds—slow and walking pace, and one reverse speed. Only 21" wide with no projecting wheels so it can be used in confined areas. Turns in its own space. Folding footrests for close approach to tables, desks, etc. Glides smoothly over mats and rugs. Cantilever springing plus foam rubber cushioning provides perfect comfort. Powered by a 12-volt battery; one overnight charge is sufficient for several days' use.



### THE MONODRIVE ELECTRIC CONVERSION UNIT

In a matter of minutes any standard model of wheelchair can be converted for powered use in the home and garden. Gives fingertip control; two forward speeds and one reverse. The unit can be quickly and easily detached from folding chairs for transportation. One overnight charge of the batteries is sufficient for several days' use.

## Mr. Dyer manages very well . . .

A wheelchair-bound spastic who last summer took up the challenge of managing a five-a-side soccer club has seen them win a trophy as the outstanding team for sportsmanship in 1968/69.

Mr. Robert Dyer, who is 51, lives at Wimbledon and was one of The Spastics Society's first home-workers. During the last summer holidays, boys from his street came to see him after learning that he played football in his youth and was once manager of Addiscombe Football Club.

They asked Mr. Dyer to form a football club for them because they had nothing to do at the weekends, and he agreed to do



The trophy won by the boys.

so, with Mr. Ken Seawall assisting.

The boys trained four times a week after school. Said Mr. Dyer: "Their dedication to the club and the game has proved successful; they are a grand lot of boys."

## Another 'Toy Library' is opened for handicapped

Following a radio talk on the Enfield Toy Library for handicapped children and Mrs. Jill Norris' subsequent article in "Spastics News," Mrs. C. R. Lear has started a similar venture in Esher.

She raised £42 at a local fair and used this money to purchase a wide selection of toys. Some of these, Mrs. Lear had specially made to her own design, based on her previous experience as a hospital teacher.

They include a doll which can be dressed according to the weather—good training for doing up buttons and bows. She has been given the use of the Friends' Meeting House, Kingston-on-Thames, at certain times during the day. In the evenings she is able to use the Health Clinics.

Parents of handicapped children in the area who are interested in the toy library should contact—Mrs. C. R. Lear, 63 Couchmore Avenue, Esher, Surrey.

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Please send me illustrated brochure on the Everest & Jennings range  
of Power Drive wheelchairs.

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Address

5N0.





Mr. Price enjoys a joke with one of the Drummonds residents.

## Spastic (54) has Driving Licence Restored

FIFTY-FOUR-year-old spastic Sydney Elliott has had his driving licence restored after a successful appeal against Nottinghamshire County Council's revocation.

Mr. Elliott's licence was revoked after his Invacar was involved in a slight accident six months ago. This occurred when he met an ambulance travelling on the wrong side of the road on an emergency call. Although he swerved "remarkably well", his vehicle just clipped the ambulance.

Last March, Mr. Elliott took a driving test and failed.

At the appeal hearing Mr. Brian Appleby, appearing for Mr. Elliott, told Nottingham magistrates how his client had started selling newspapers in the street at 14 and had gradually built up a flourishing newsagent's business.

The Invacar, said Mr. Appleby, was a vital part of his independence. The revocation of his licence could have destroyed his life and livelihood.

The magistrates decided to allow the appeal subject to Mr. Elliott having an annual medical examination.

## Anonymous gift

Ponds Home for adult spastics in Bucks has received an anonymous donation of £500.

## Why not a Tax for Charity?

An Essex man wants to get rid of "embarrassing" flag days, and replace them with a tax to raise money for charity.

In a letter to the "News of the World", Mr. Norman Woodland of Colchester, said: "Twopence a week or so from every taxpayer would enable us to dispense with all the flag days, which can be so embarrassing."

"Why don't we raise the much-needed funds for cancer research, the blind, the spastics and so on by deductions from the nation's weekly earnings?" he asked.

# Derek Nimmo opens new Medway day centre

THE NEW Spastics day centre at Gillingham, Kent was officially opened during Spastics Week by Derek Nimmo, star of "All Gas and Gaiters"—and he found himself next to the Dean...

Jocularly announcing his discomfiture at being seated next to the Dean of Rochester who is a Bishop as well, Mr. Nimmo told several amusing ecclesiastical anecdotes.

In more serious vein, he quoted from St. Paul's first Epistle to the Corinthians: "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels and have not love, I am become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal."

## PRINCE'S MOTTO

Mr. Nimmo said that the people caring for spastics and running centres like this showed

plenty of the right kind of love.

He felt it would be appropriate if, as this opening was being held on Investiture Day, group members had chosen to inscribe the Prince of Wales' motto, "Ich Dien" (I serve) above the main entrance.

Mr. Nimmo unveiled a commemorative plaque on behalf of the Stars Organisation for Spastics.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. J. King, President of the Medway Towns and District Spastics Group. This was seconded by Mr. Derek Lancaster-Gaye, Assistant Director (Services) who spoke about the purpose and aims of Spastics Week.

## GROUP HISTORY

The purpose-built centre provides treatment and care for 20 children, mostly under five years of age. It was built by the Medway Towns group of The Spastics Society with the help of a grant from Headquarters. The site is rented from Gillingham Borough Council at a nominal sum.

It is a compact one-storey timber structure in a quiet residential part of the town. There is one large hall with two smaller treatment rooms, an office, toilet facilities, garage and a gleaming modern kitchen where midday meals are prepared for children and staff.

## RETIRES — TO TEND FOUR GARDENS

A retired market gardener and his wife are looking after four gardens at the moment their own, and three belonging to spastic organisations.

The holiday bungalows are in Prestatyn. Two belong to the Shropshire group and the third to Coventry and District. And the couple who care for the gardens are volunteers.

The market gardener regards it as a satisfying occupation in his retirement, and receives no salary for the work.

This was learned when Coventry's bungalow was officially opened by the city's Lord Mayor, Ald. W. F. Burdett, who congratulated group members on their own magnificent example of voluntary effort.

The guests were welcomed by the chairman, Mr. G. W. Shepherd, and the Lord Mayor was thanked by the vice-chairman, Mr. R. Hill. A tour of inspection followed.

## Good year for Southampton

A family help unit has now been registered by the Southampton and District Spastics Association, it was announced in the annual report of the Association's Executive Committee.

The Society is now considering staffing the Unit, which is for short term and emergency residential care.

It was stated in the report that the highlight of last year for the Association was the opening of a Day Centre by

the late Princess Marina.

On the financial side, the Society showed a surplus of £248 for the year despite rising costs, and the work centre had managed to keep within its budget figures, partly due to a considerable reduction in rates.

A new venture undertaken at the work centre during the past year, was pottery. Teachers from the Southampton Art School were giving up their time voluntarily to teach pottery to spastics at the centre,

Guests at the opening ceremony included the Mayors of the three Medway towns. They heard an address of welcome from Mr. L. Vernon, local group Chairman.

He outlined the history of the Medway Towns group, which was formed 15 years ago. At first spastic children in the area had to go to Maidstone for day care and treatment, he said, then a bungalow was leased temporarily from the War Department at Southill Barracks. Now at last the group had been able to build its own centre, specially designed for the purpose.

## Place for 'Smiling Faces' to meet

Only 3½ years since the formation of the group, Wolverhampton and District Spastics Society now has its own centre. It has been officially opened by the Mayor of Wolverhampton, Alderman S. S. Taten.

The building, "Fernwood", in Tettenhall Road, Wolverhampton, is a Victorian house which is to be extensively altered. It will provide occupational training for adult spastics, and the flourishing "Smiling Faces" Youth Club will meet there several times a week.

The house will eventually be used as a group Headquarters and Social Centre when the projected Wolverhampton Work Centre is under way.

## One weigh to do it

Firemen at work in the Watford Day Centre—but no fire, nor even smoke...

The brigade housed next door, regularly pay visits to check their hand-extinguishers by weight to see how much is left after a fire.

And what could be handier to do the job with than the centre's "sit-down" scales?

(Photo: Nicholas Elwes).



## ... and another

The Norwich Spastics Work Centre had a surprise fire drill recently. Unknown to anyone there, firemen ignited a smoke bomb. One of the employees smelled burning and quickly sounded the alarm. The whole building was evacuated, in two minutes, by the 31 spastics and the staff. Fire Officers were impressed by this performance.

## Bursting at the Seams

The Spastics Treatment Centre at Middlesbrough General Hospital is bursting at the seams, Teesside Spastics Society was told at its annual meeting, when members discussed plans to extend the centre.

Chairman of the Society, Mr. Arthur Heseltine, told the meeting that about £4,500 had been raised for spastics last year in the Teesside area.



## Monty Modlyn called the numbers

THE second annual Dandy Ball, organised by Spyder, to aid spastics, was held at the Dorchester Hotel.

Gerry Marsden of Gerry and the Pacemakers, Mr. London Stores (David Cumplen), and record producer Michael Nolan were the guests who judged the Dandy Competition at midnight. The compere for the competition was Keith Skues, and a round of bingo was conducted after dinner by radio and T.V. personality Monty Modlyn.

# Shrewsbury get their world record

## SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM SPASTICS WEEK

A NEW WORLD record was set by local swimmers in Shrewsbury—and it will take some beating.

Organisers of the marathon swim there found the result exceeded all their hopes. They had thought that 100 miles non-stop swimming would be the most they could expect. In fact, this figure was exceeded by 110 miles.

**OFF-BEAT NOTE:** Nine members of Shrewsbury Sub-Aqua Club also completed a marathon under-water swim, and raised a further £208.

Twenty-five per cent of spastic conditions are preventable in the present state of medical knowledge announced Pro-

fessor Paul Polani, director of the paediatric research unit at Guys Hospital.

At a Press conference to explain the work of the unit, Professor Polani also said that 15 per cent could be prevented within a month either side of the birth.

Disc jockey Pat Doody opened Oakwood's fete which attracted 400 people and raised about £500.

Cumberland, Westmorland and Furness area's contribution consisted of a wine and

cheese party and a garden fete. Both were well supported, and raised over £700.

Despite the collision of some local trades fortnight holidays in Scotland with National Spastics Week (school holidays in Scotland started on June 27th) the Scottish Spastics Appeal Office are most gratified with the results and their modest target of £5,000 extra money was handsomely surpassed.

Plans for an adult residential centre on Merseyside were announced during the Week, and a special fund for the project has been set up by the Crosby Bootle, Litherland and District Spastics Society.

With a good deal of generous help from local firms and organisations, Wiltshire branch of the National Union of Journalists held a barbecue, raising £35 for spastics.

Trowbridge Young Conservatives paraded a float round their town, and profits were over £50.

There was also a whist drive at Warminster Town Hall which raised nearly £22.

A young South London couple, William and Christine Dixon, celebrated the week by getting married. Both spastics, they first met at a local group meeting and chose this week for their wedding to publicise the needs of others.

Instead of reaching their £1,000 target, Oxfordshire Spastics Society ended Spastics Week heavily in debt.

This disaster was mainly due to lack of public support, both for four "special evenings" at St. Catherine's College and a massive Charity Show at Oxford Stadium which included a firework display and a slapstick version of "It's a Knock-Out," in which leading show business personalities took part.

Loughborough and District Spastics Society raised £170 during the week with a gymkhana at Quorn, attended by more than 600 people. It was organised by Mr. Kevin Burt, who is himself severely handicapped.

Marathon swim for Watford's effort made £434; there was also a cricket club dance and an invitation golf meeting, among a number of other events.

After a successful week's programme, Blackburn group

secretary, Mr. Frank Nuttall, said they had achieved their aim.

"Even though it started slowly, it picked up towards the end," he said.

Sherrards Training Centre was thrown open to the public, who were able to see how the centre had helped over 250 spastics to find employment in industry.

Music and song made an important contribution to Hemel Hempstead's week, with a variety show, a band performance and an old tyme music hall.

tive officer of the group, Mr. Harry Knight.

And Cromer, a local committee formed only last January, nevertheless hit its Week target of £400.

The audience was invited to dress appropriately for Northampton's Old Tyme Music Hall. They did—and the event made £600.

Four hundred people went to a highly successful fashion show at St. Alban's Civic Hall. And, at Slough, stars who took part in a cricket match against a Farnham Common XI

## Aids and Appliances

### From the Appliance Officer

## GET FIXED UP AND END THE SUSPENSE

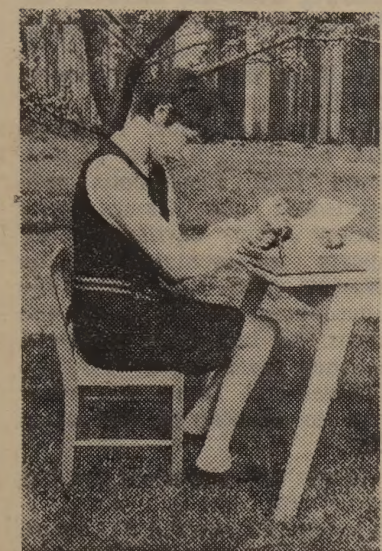
Among the exhibits in the Exhibition Room at the Society's Assessment Centre at Fitzroy Square is a small collection of clothing and fastenings. This will be added to in time and it intended to give people ideas of how to tackle their own dressing problems.

As everyone is different, there are no hard and fast rules but, perhaps, a large size fastener or a detachable suspender might solve a small problem for you.

Undoubtedly the prettiest display of items are the ingenious "Bibette" dresses for messy little girls. They each have two reversible, removable panels which button into the centre front of the frock. Four dresses for the price of one! They are available in three sizes, up to six years, from our Supplies Officer. Price 35/-, including postage.

More down-to-earth are large snap fasteners, a trouser hook and bar, sewing elastic for using in cuff links and a boy's shirt with dabs of Velcro stitched under the buttons. Pop into Fitzroy Square and have a look. You might give US some ideas.

S.K.



being "cocked" (left) on a small piece of matting, is then "triggered off" by the Perspex cover when Sharon has located the correct hole and letter (right).

Mrs. York, of Ash, who works at the White Lodge Centre, Chertsey, is delighted with the device and hopes that many similar ones will be made for other athetoid spastics.

The commode shown at left is adjustable in height and comes on four castors, two of them with brakes. It fits over any lavatory bowl or can alternatively be used with a blue-grey container which although not shown in the photograph is included with the appliance.

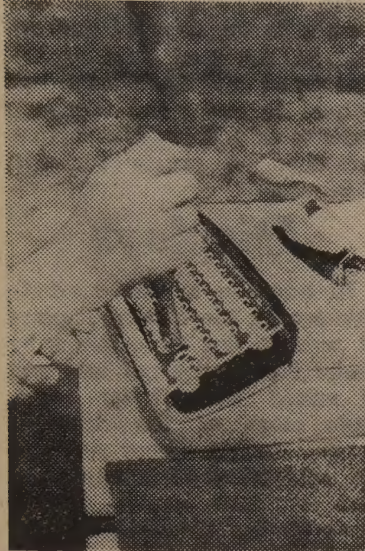
### Waistcoat support

The Commode can easily be folded for transport and storage and can have a fitted cushion as an extra. It costs £9 9s. which includes postage from Amesbury Surgical Appliances, South Mill Road, Amesbury, Wiltshire. Telephone No. Amesbury 2157.

Readers may remember seeing a photograph in the January issue of the "News" which showed a child in a go-kart wearing a waistcoat support.

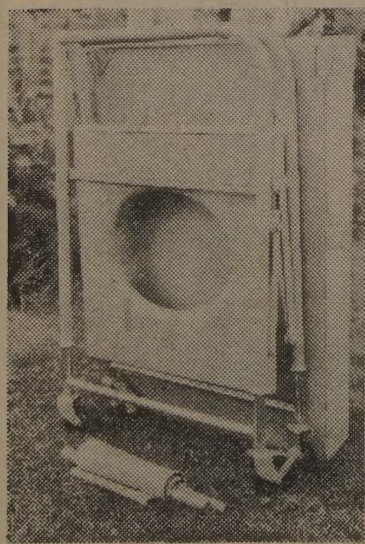
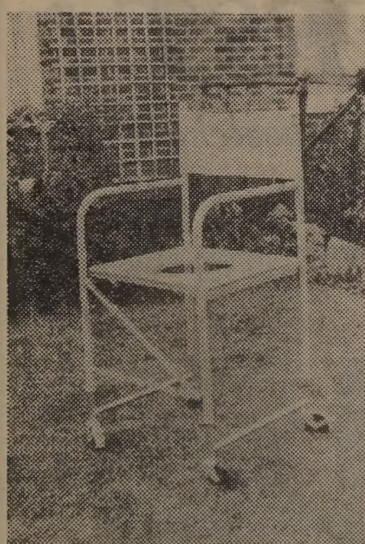
Our Information Service on Aids and Appliances now reports that the garment can be bought ready-made from Dayne Designs, 7 Cotswold Avenue, Sticker, St. Austell, Cornwall. It costs 18s 9d. and is made in tartan, cotton-backed, leather cloth.

Orders direct to the firm please, giving size required.



Simply but effectively, like most good ideas, Mr. James Cronin has invented for his cousin Sharon York, a simple sprung plunger which helps to overcome her typing difficulties.

The sprung plunger seen



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## Employment moves and news

Recent employment news and moves are as follows (training centres in brackets):

DOROTHY ALDRICH from Paddington is working as a stock clerk in a furniture shop.

DAVID ATHERTON from Burnley (Lancaster) is employed locally as a capstan operator.

HENRY BENNETT who lives at the Society's hostel in Woodford, has a new job—his employers are Messrs. Harker Stagg Ltd. of Leyton and he is continuing his work as a Tickopress operator.

ROBERT BOYD from Guildford is working in a local store as a general cleaner and maintenance hand.

PAULINE BUTLER from Cheltenham (Sherrards) has a new job as an assembler and press operator.

BRIAN COSTELLO from Ealing (Sherrards) has changed his job and is now working as a bench hand in the meter

case department of Messrs Landis & Gyr.

JANET DRAKE from Bridport is doing office work locally at Messrs. Woolworths.

PAUL HODGETTS from Eastleigh (Sherrards) has changed his job and is now employed on stock shifting at the George Lloyd Supermarket.

RALPH INCE from Tottenham (Sherrards) has a new job and is doing inspection work for Messrs. Nucky Scott & Co. Ltd.

SUSAN JONES from Sawston is working as a cleaner in the laboratories of the Institute of Animal Physiology.

ROBERT MARTIN (Lancaster) is working as a yarn tester for Messrs. Lansil Ltd.

GLYN MOREY from Landport (Sherrards) has commenced work for Lindsays Surgical Appliances in Portsmouth where he will receive a period of training in leather work.

JOHN MORGAN from Wilmslow (Lancaster) is working as a multigraph operator.

DOREEN NICKLIN from Westgate-on-Sea (Lancaster) is employed as a punch card operator by the Margate Corporation.

RAYMOND POWELL from Rochdale (Lancaster) has changed his job and is employed as a grinder by a local firm.

NICHOLAS SMALLEY from Metheringham is working in his father's garage.

RICHARD VIVIAN from Stratford (Sherrards) has a new job as a general engineering machinist for Plessey Electronics.

JEAN WARD from Birstall (Sherrards) is working as a packer for a firm in Drighlington.

BARRY WILCOX from Hawes (Finchdale Abbey) is now working as a clerical assistant in the Civil Service.

## Worth the leg-pulling

NO FEWER THAN 15,000 people turned up in glorious weather for a carnival, traction engine rally and fair organ concourse run by Stamford and District Spastics Society.

This mammoth two-day event raised about £400, the money being for the Lincolnshire Spastics Centre.

Fifteen-year-old Helen Tomaselli was crowned the Society's Carnival Queen. She said afterwards: "It has been so exciting—worth all the leg-pulling at school."

ITV weather man Mr. Trevor Baker, opened Bournemouth, Poole and District's garden party, following the Wareham Walk, a door-knock and many social events.

Gloucester and District Spastics Society organised a family entertainment during Spastics Week in which the most popular performance was a team of handbell ringers from Whitminster School.

At Cheltenham a hair fashion display was presented in aid of the Week by the Artistic Coiffure Group.

Bedford's brightest spot, perhaps, was the performance of its team in the swimming events at the National Spastics Games. They took three awards in the junior events and one senior award, every Bedford competitor thus being among the winners.

Joint flag-day by Colchester with neighbouring groups, centres and Friends realised about £500.

A big attraction by East Herts. was an exhibition of many aspects of cerebral palsy, and visitors included a number of Mayors and Chairmen of local authorities.

Norfolk and Norwich won ten minutes of viewing time on Anglia Television, with a look at their work centre and an interview with the execu-

included Bill Cotton, Cardew Robinson and John Clees, as well as TV commentator Michael Aspel.

A well-organised fete at High Wycombe netted over £330.

Isle of Thanet's highlights were a sponsored swim by spastic John Bell, a midnight matinee and a marathon bowling event... Three beat groups provided music for East Sussex's Pop Ball—and a second shop was opened for the Week. Worthing and Littlehampton benefited from an open day at Arundel Castle.

In spite of a complete change of honorary officers only a month before the Week began, Ashford and Tenterden organised coffee mornings, a wine and cheese party, and, with the local youth group, a sponsored walk.

Portsmouth had the official opening of their work centre by the Deputy Lord Mayor; it included a fashion show. There was also a pageant at the Royal Marines Barracks, Eastney.

A long list of events in North-West London ranged from a harp recital to a door-knock, together with a 20,000-letter mailing appeal. And in North London, among other attractions, two decorated vehicles were entered in Hornsey Carnival, where the group had a stand.

Teesside group published an eight-page paper during Spastics Week, taking a light-hearted look at what the area would be like in 2001.

## PAY UP AND HAVE A BANANA!

Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge and Area Spastics Society raised £266 in street collections during Spastics Week.

There were about 30 collectors, some dressed as clowns, hard at work for all of Saturday, pausing only for a snatched sandwich lunch.

One collector, standing outside a fruiterer's shop, was presented with a large box of bananas and instructed to give one to every child making a donation!

The amount raised brings the group's total for this year well past their £500 target.





Ruth Dyga receives the Boreham Trophy from Mr. Arter. Looking on are Mr. A. G. McAllister (left), Principal of the Star Centre for Youth, and Mr. Derek Lancaster-Gaye, Assistant Director (Services).

## Field events

### Girls junior precision javelin:

Group 1.—Merit, D. Day (D). Group 2.—1, B. Valentine (I); 2, S. Palmer (N); 3, A. Shelton (N). Group 3.—Merit, C. Danylwzin (N). Boys: Group 1.—Merit, M. Neal (C). Group 2.—1, G. Franklin (M); 2, S. Fletcher (N); 3, P. Williams (C). Group 3.—1, M. Green (I); 2, G. Dixon (P); 3, G. West (I). Group 4.—Merit, M. Smart (D). Group 5.—Merit, D. Iddenden (I).

**Girls Junior Club:** Group 1.—1, D. Day (D); 2, P. Gibbins (C). Group 2.—1, J. Greenwood (B); 2, S. Palmer (N); 3, B. Valentine (I). Group 3.—Merit, C. Danylwzin (N). Group 5.—1, K. Infield (M); 2, D. Mourby (B). Boys: Group 1.—Merit, M. Neal (C). Group 2.—1, P. Williams (C); 2, G. Franklin (M); 3, S. Fletcher (N). Group 3.—1, G. Dixon (P); 2, M. Green (I); 3, P. Allam (B). Group 4.—1, R. Wilson (M); 2, M. Smart (D); 3, D. Forshaw (P). Group 5.—1, D. Iddenden (I); 2, S. Goff (B).

**Ladies distance javelin.**—Group 1.—1, M. Martin (D); 2, S. Watson (N). Group 2.—1, J. French (P); 2, S. Hurd (N). Boys: Group 1.—1, N. May (S); 2, D. Randles (L); 3, S. Ashworth (L). Group 2.—1, N. Burns (P); 2, P. Watson (H). Group 3.—1, G. Patterson (P); 2, B. Oxford (W). Group 4.—1, D. Sproates (P); 2, J. Dybell (P); 3, A. Browne (D).

**Senior shot:** Group 1.—1, J. Cieszyzyk (S); 2, S. Ashworth (L); 3, M. Ridgway (L). Group 2.—1, N. Burns (P); 2, D. Burton (M); 3, T. H. Laydens (H). Group 3.—1, G. Pattison (P); 2, B. Oxford (W); 3, J. Wright (C). Group 4.—1, D. Sproates (P); 2, A. Browne (D); 3, J. Dybell (P). Group 5.—Merit, D. Moore (P).

**Ladies adult discus:** Group 1.—1, A. Arnall (L); 2, C. Quinn (L); 3, A. Mullins (L). Men: Group 1.—1, N. Bentley (D); 2, C. Haynes; 3, K. Musial (L). Group 4.—1, W. Dandy (D); 2, M. Levinge (O).

**Girls junior medicine ball:** Group 1.—Merit, D. Day (D). Group 2.—1, S. Palmer (N); 2, J. Greenwood (B); 3, B. Valentine (I). Group 3.—Merit, C. Danylwzin (N). Group 5.—Merit, D. Mourby (B). Boys: Group 1.—Merit, M. Neal (C). Group 2.—1, S. Fletcher (N); 2, A. Wray (B); 3, G. Franklin (M). Group 3.—1, G. Dixon (P); 2, M. Green (I); 3, M. Fysh (C). Group 4.—1, M. Smart (D); 2, D. Forshaw (P). Group 5.—1, D. Iddenden (I); 2, S. Goff (B).

**Ladies precision javelin:** Group 1.—1, L. Harrison (C); 2, M. Martin (D); 3, S. Watson (N). Group 2.—1, J. French (P); 2, A. Tennebaum (I). Group 4.—1, T. Harding (D); 2, A. Dee (D); 3, A. Trotman (D). Group 5.—Merit, D. Glynn (M). Men: Group 1.—1, M. Ridgway (L), and S. Ashworth (L); 3, A. Gamble

# Principal winners

(D). Group 2.—1, N. Burns (P); 2, T. Layden (L); 3, R. Silvey (T). Group 3.—1, B. Oxford (W); 2, J. Wright (C). Group 4.—1, D. Youngman (D) and A. Coleman (D); 2, A. Browne (D) and D. Sproates (P); 3, J. Dybell (P).

**Ladies senior club:** Group 1.—1, A. Arnall (L); 2, C. Quinn (L); 3, L. Harrison (C). Group 2.—1, J. French (P); 2, L. Millett (I). Group 3.—Merit, L. Thomas (C). Group 4.—1, A. Dee (D); 2, T. Harding (D); 3, A. Trotman (D). Group 5.—1, D. Glynn (M); 2, L. McMahon (P); 3, A. Morris (B). Men: Group 1.—1, D. Randles (L); 2, M. Ridgway (L); 3, S. Ashworth (L). Group 2.—1, N. Burns (P); 2, T. Layden (L); 3, R. Silvey (T). Group 3.—1, G. Pattison (P); 2, J. Wright (C). Group 4.—1, D. Sproates (P); 2, J. Dybell (P); 3, A. Browne (D).

**Ladies distance javelin.**—Group 2.—Merit, V. Catlow (O). Group 5.—Merit, K. Stone. Men: Group 1.—1, C. Haynes; 2, N. Bentley (D); 3, K. Musial (L). Group 2.—1, B. Powell (A); 2, D. Davies (W); 3, D. Small (E). Group 3.—Merit, B. Parkin (W). Group 4.—1, W. Dandy (D); 2, M. Levinge (O).

**Men's shot.**—Group 1.—1, N. Bentley (D); 2, M. Dibbs-le-Touche (E); 3, C. Haynes. Group 2.—1, C. Fitzgerald (E); 2, D. Small (E); 3, K. Tidswell (L). Group 3.—1, D. Davies (W); 2, B. Parkin (W); 3, A. Brown (W). Group 4.—1, M. Levinge (O); 2, W. Dandy (D).

**Ladies senior discus:** Group 1.—1, M. Martin (D); 2, S. Watson (N). Group 2.—1, D. Shea (S); 2, J. French (P); 3, S. Hurd (N). Group 4.—1, S. Hennigan (D); 2, T. Harding (D); 3, A. Dee (D). Men: Group 1.—1, N. May (S); 2, P. Norton (D); 3, D. Randles (L). Group 2.—1, N. Burns (P); 2, D. Shea (S); 3, R. Silvey (T). Group 3.—Merit, G. Pattison (P). Group 4.—1, D. Sproates (P); 2, J. Dybell (P); 3, A. Browne (D).

**Ladies precision javelin:** Group 1.—Merit, G. Cutler (A). Men: Group 1.—1, N. Bentley (D); 2, T. Price; 3, T. Clarke (D) and C. Haynes. Group 2.—1, B. Powell (A); 2, K. Tidswell (L); 3, D. Davies (W). Group 3.—Merit, B. Parkin (W). Group 4.—1, W. Dandy (D); 2, M. Levinge (O). Group 5.—Merit, J. Bennett (W).

**Ladies adult club:** Group 2.—1, V. Catlow (O); 2, A. Parker (E). Group 4.—Merit, J. Tage (F). Group 5.—1, J. Thomas (G); 2, A. Rattenbury (F); 3, A. Pearce (G). Men: Group 1.—1, N. Bentley (D); 2, K. Musial (L); 3, C. Haynes. Group 2.—1, D. Small (E); 2, C. Fitz-

## KEY

D-Delaware; I-Ingfield; N-Notttingham; C-Craig-y-Parc; M-Princecess Margaret; P-Percy Hedley; B-Burton Hill House; S-Sherbards; L-Lancaster; H-Hull; W-Harlow-wood; O-Oakwood; T-Tan Tetley; A-Midlands; E-Broadstones; F-Enterprise; G-Coombe Farm; J-Star Centre; K-Lingfield; Q-Smiling Faces; R-Ponds.

gerald (E); 3, P. Wordsley (E). Group 4.—1, M. Levinge (O); 2, A. Fields (F); 3, V. Humphrey (G). Group 5.—1, J. Bennett (W); 2, T. Davey (G).

## Run races

**Junior girls:** Group 1.—1, D. Day (D); 2, P. Gibbins (C). Group 2.—1, B. Valentine (I); 2, J. Greenwood (B); 3, A. Shelton (N). **Junior boys:** Group 1.—1, A. Saunders (K); 2, M. Neal (C); 3, J. Green (K). Group 2.—1, P. Williams (C); 2, A. Wray (B); 3, I. Bonser (N). **Junior mixed:** Group 3.—1, M. Green (I); 2, M. Fysh (C); 3, G. West (I). **Senior girls:** Group 1.—1, B. Holmes (L); 2, C. Quinn (L); 3, L. Jablonka (J). Group 2.—1, A. Tennebaum (I); 2, A. Taylor (J); 3, L. Millett (I). **Senior boys:** Group 1.—1, P. Rowley (J); 2, P. Norton (D); 3, D. Randles (L). Group 2.—1, I. Kidson (Q); 2, D. Claver (M); 3, R. Silvey (T). Group 3.—1, S. Bucktin (H); 2, G. Pattinson (P).

## Walk races

**Junior group 1 boys.**—1, D. Day (D); 2, M. Neal (C); 3, P. Gibbins (C). **Junior group 2 girls.**—1, B. Valentine (I); 2, A. Shelton (N); 3, S. Palmer (N). **Junior or mixed group 3.**—1, M. Fysh (C); 2, M. Green (I); 3, K. Reed (C). **Junior boys group 2.**—1, A. Wray (B); 2, G. Franklin (M); 3, A. Seward (N). **Senior girls group 1.**—1, C. Quinn (L); 2, L. Harrison (C); 3, S. Watson (N). **Senior boys group 1.**—1, M. Ridgway (L) and P. Norton (D); 3, G. Owen (D). **Senior girls group 2.**—1, L. Millett (I); 2, A. Tennebaum (I); 3, J. French (P). **Senior boys group 2.**—1, I. Kidson (Q); 2, R. Silvey (T); 3, G. Kendall (T).

**Senior girls group 3.**—1, S. Hurd (N); 2, L. Thomas (C); 3, R. Dyga (J). **Senior boys group 3.**—1, S. Bucktin (H); 2, P. Wilkes (J); 3, B. Oxford (W). **Adult girls group 1.**—1, A. Arnall (L); 2, C. Pearce (F). **Adult men group 1.**—1, B. Earle (L); 2, R. Smith (A); 3, N. Bentley (D). **Adult group 3**

# First National Games went like clockwork

EXCEPTIONALLY FINE WEATHER and an organisation that ran like clockwork made the first National Spastics Games, held at Stoke Mandeville Hospital an outstanding success — and a good augury for the European and International events which have already been foreshadowed by the Society's Chairman, Mr. W. A. Burn.

Over 200 competitors from 25 establishments throughout the country took part in the two-day event, which included field and track races—some for wheelchair-bound entrants—and swimming. Silver medals went to main prize-winners and certificates to others.

Winner of the H. E. Boreham Trophy for the contestant who made the most determined effort was awarded to 17-year-old Ruth Dyga, from Glastonbury, who is at the Star Centre for Youth, Ullenwood Manor, Cheltenham.

Wonderful co-operation by the hospital authorities enabled

all the entrants and their escorts to be accommodated and fed during their two-day stay and, although the magnificent new stadium at the hospital was not finished in time for the Games, the outdoor facilities were first class, and the organisation, in the overall charge of Mr. A. T. S. Edwards was exceptionally smooth-running.

## Determination

The many visitors during the two-day event, opened by Sir Ludwig Guttman, included the Mayor of Aylesbury, the Chairman of the Spastics Society, Mr. W. A. Burn and Mrs. Burn, the Director, Mr. James Loring, Mr. Douglas Arter, chairman and managing director of Regional Pool Promotions who sponsored the Games, disc jockey Jimmy Saville and TV sports commentator Eddie Waring, who took over the microphone for some of the races. He had made a special journey from Leeds for the Games—and faced a further trip to Edinburgh the same day.

Music was played on the Saturday afternoon by the apprentices' band from R.A.F. Halton, where, on the following day, the swimming sports were held.

Miss Tina Peel - Yates, National Charity Princess, was among those who assisted the chairman to distribute prizes.

Mr. Burn told a large crowd at the end of the first day: "I am sure all those who have enjoyed the events will congratulate all competitors—winners and non-winners—for the spirit in which they entered and the determination and energy they have displayed."

It was all part of the experience of life, he said, and it was up to everyone to make the most of the talents they had.

He expressed the Society's thanks to the hospital authorities, to Regional Pool promotions and all those who had helped to make the Games a success, and he had a particular word of praise for Mr. Edwards.

## Displays

In addition to the competitive events, there were displays of archery and table tennis by Stoke Mandeville patients and of mixed football by teams from some of the Society's establishments. There was also an exhibition of invalid cars and standard model adaptations by the Disabled Drivers' Association and motor manufacturers.

GAMES PICTURES — CENTRE PAGES

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## Relays

**Junior Run Relay:** 1, Craig-y-Parc; 2, Lingfield; 3, Nottingham A. Senior: 1, Delaware A; 2, Lingfield Sch.; 3, Lancaster A. **Adult Run Relay:** 1, Broadstones; 2, Midland Spastics Association. **Senior Wheel Chair:** 1, Delaware A; 2, Delaware B; 3, Percy Hedley. **Adult:** Final A.—1, Southampton Enterprise; 2, Oakwood; 3, Coombe Farm. Final B.—1, Lancaster; 2, Ponds.

**Adult girls:** Group 1.—1, E. Hall; 2, G. Cutler (A); 3, A. Arnall (L). Group 2.—1, V. Catlow (O); 2, P. Wood (Q); 3, A. Mullins (L).

**Adult males:** Group 1.—1, I. Shaw (F); 2, P. Stone (K); 3, R. Smith (A). Group 2.—1, R. Winchurch (Q); 2, D. Small (E); 3, B. Smith (Q).

(SWIMMING RESULTS NEXT MONTH).

Published by The Spastics Society, 12 Park Crescent, London, W.1. Printed by Bristol United Press Ltd., Silver Street, Bristol, 1. In Association with Godfrey Lang Ltd., Cliffrids Inn, London, E.C.4.